GLIMPSES OF PALESTINE

Past and Present

By

SHAUKAT USMANI

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PREFACE

The Writer of this small brochure proposes to deal with the history of that great country which has been known to humanity from the very time human consciousness can be traced to have developed powers of inner and outer insight. This is Palestine which we propose to touch.

The early history of every country is shrouded in mystery and mythology. Yet, there are some countries as Egypt, China, the Gangetic plains and The Indus Valley where written accounts are available dating as far back as several thousand years ago.

7000 years ago there was an established government in Egypt; there were beautiful cities and gardens in the Nile Valley, and the people had wonderful cottage industries.

And Palestine is known as the land of Prophets and respected by three great religions of world, viz., Judaisim, Christianity and Islam.

From the times of Abraham to the modern times, every well educated Muslim is supposed to be knowing all that has happened in that blessed land.

Abraham himself was a stranger in that land, since accounts tell us, he came from Mesopotamia — modern Iraq.

The Muslim and other Urdu scholars of the sub-continent of India have derived most of their knowledge about Pales-

tine, Egypt and many parts of the Middle East, where culture and religion had developed, from a book known as "Qissas-ul-Anbia (stories of the prophets). Not being conversant with the Old or New Testaments the writer can not say whether the source of this huge volume is from these ancient scriptures.

There are many in India and Pakistan who will narrate to you the human history from the time of Adam and Noah, and down to Abraham and Yasser Arafat.

GLIMPSES OF PALESTINE

Ancient & Modern

We are dealing today with a country which, according to Everyman's Encyclopaedia, was inhabited as long ago as 180,000 years, and the people there lived in caves wherein traces of their occupation are found by the archaeologists.

In olden times, and according to the Old Testament, it was known as the 'Land of Canaan'. Palestine has got many names and titles. Holy Land and Pelesheth are two of its old names. Herodotus in 5th century Before Christ calls it Philistine Land.

The earliest civilised people who inhabited Palestine came from Asia Minor (known also as Anatolia and Turkey in modern usage). These people were known as Philistines. History tells us that these new comers, who conquered the land from the cave dwellers were very inteligent and industrious and their civilisation mingled with the Egyptians and Mesopotaminas (Iraqies).

They developed agriculture and built beautiful houses and were content to live in peace with their neighbours.

Abraham, who the Jews and Arabs both claim to be their forefather (ancestor) came from Mesopotamia and so came the people known now as Jews. Jewish emigration to Palestine is known to be about 2000 B.C.

Abraham is said to have visited Egypt along with his wife

SARAH, but did not stay there long. And at this time too Egypt was being governed by a Pharoah.

We shall not dwell on this ancient phase for the present and shall take a little bit of Palestinian geography.

AREA : Palestine is 150 miles in length (North to South). Its width in the North is 35 miles and in the South 110. The total area is approximately 13,000 Sq. miles.

Cultures : Culturally, Palestine was always associated with the Egyptian and Euphrates Valley cultures.

Agriculture : Palestine is rich in agriculture. Grows fruits like apricots, figs, oranges, dates citron, pomegranates, melons, pears, plums, mulberry and apples. There have always been extensive vine orchards which produce the same varieties of grapes as all other Mediterranean littoral countries. It has plenty of olives; and produced plenty of olive oil when the Arabs were the masters of their land. In vegetables, Palestine produces beans, pulses, lentils, tomatoes, onions, cucumbers and other leafy varieties ranging from spinach to radishes etc.

Wheat, barley, maize and millet are its chief crops.

In the animal domain in the line of meats it has got sheep and goats. Camels and dates are the chief companions of the Arabs and hence Palestine, as all other Arab countries, has got its camels as also Arab horses.

Tobacco of a very good variety is produced in Palestine.

Minerals :

Limestone, gypsum, magnesium chloride, chloride of potash and bromine. Plenty of petroleum and other minor minerals here and there.

Population :

The writer has got two authentic population figures of Palestine pertaining to the modern times.

In 1895 (i.e., before the Zionist Conference in Basle (which we shall pick up in due time) the population stood as: Arabs (including Muslims and Christians) : 453,000 or 90.6% Jews : 47,000.

This was the proportion of population in Palestine prior to the BASLE CONVENTION initiated by Theodor Herzl, the parent of the concept of modern Zionism.

In 1942, according to the EVERYMAN'S ENCLOPAEDIA. the population figure stood as :

Total population was 1,605,800.

Of this the Muslims stood as 988,000; Christians, 126,300; Druises, 7000; Jews, 478,500. And there were 100,000 Bedouins (who were no doubt Muslims, and they could not be Jews by any stretch of imagination).

With this preamble to our present theme we now start with certain parts of history — pre-historical times, medieval times and the modern era.

ABRAHAM & AFTER :

Abraham had two sons, Issac & Ishmail (Ismail according to the Muslims). Abraham had two wifes, Sarah and Hajira. We are not much concerned with this delineation. But as it is a matter of common knowledge we shall state that Abraham came with his wife, cousin, Sarah to Egypt and took away with him an Egyptian wife by the name of Hajira. He did not find

conditions in Egypt, under the Pharoah, congenial for himself and went away to Palestine.

There is a Jewish-Arab controversy about the ancestry of these two nations. Arabs claim to be the descendents of Ismail and say the Jews were the descendents of Issac. Not entering into this controversy we come to a period when the Jews from Iraq invaded Palestine and subdued the local population.

Joseph, the 11th or 12th son of Jacob was hurled into a well by his brothers when they were travelling, because of the jealousy, as Joseph was not only prettier than others but he had incurred their displeasure by telling a dream of his to his father that he had seen 11 stars worshipping at his feet. The father interpreted it as 11 brothers of his were to accept him as their superior in every respect.

Neither questioning nor asserting about this Muslim version, we come to a stage when the story weaves round Joseph:

He was rescued from the well by some merchant-caravan going to Egypt. It is said, Joseph was sold as a slave and fell into the hands of Zulekha in the royal house of Pharaoh. Apart from the love story, there is the story of Joseph being cast in prison on false charges. In prison, he met a certain Minister, so goes the story, who had incurred the wrath of the ruler, and there was another man who shared the same prison cell with Joseph and the Minister. The Minister saw a dream* and so did the other inmate. Joseph is said to have

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* dreamt that he was serving wine to the King, the other inmate saw that he was carrying bread loaves on his head.

interpreted their dreams: To the Minister he said, your release is nearing, and to the other he said you will be soon executed. It is said his version came true, and the Minister at the time of his release promised Joseph to plead his case with the King. But he soon forgot his promise till the King himself saw a very strange dream of seven fat cows being eaten by seven lean ones; and seven fat wheat stalks being swallowed up by seven lean ones. The King, it is stated, was naturally upset and he narrated his dream to his courtiers. And here the memory of that particular Minister returned about Joseph; and he told the King about him. Joseph was released and he then interpreted the dream as : Seven years of plenty of crops will be followed by seven years of famine. He advised the King to make provision for the lean years to follow the bumper crop ones starting at that time.

The legend again says, that Joseph was awarded with the key of the treasury; became the Finance Minister of the State. And then it is said, he invited his brothers and father to Egypt to share his glory and fortune. Along with the brothers came a host of Jews and they soon captured the gold and silver market of Egypt and thus, naturally made themselves unwelcome to the Egyptian people. It is stated they invited colossal repression on themselves — both governmental and public.

Not intending to dwell very long on this theme, suffice it to say that there came a time when Moses appeared on the scene and led the Jews back through Sinai to Palestine.

The writer will not fight with any theologian if the latter challenges him on the above version handed down from father to son in the Indian sub-continent.

Jewish Empire :

There is ample historical evidence to show that the Jews laid down the foundations of Kingdom of Israel only in the time of David. The united Kingdom of Israel under David and his son, Solomon lasted only for 72 years — from 994 B.C. to 922 B.C. Then the Kingdom was split apart (according to the White Paper issued by the Jordanian Directorate of Culture and Guidance). It split into two small Kingdoms — Judah and Israel — with Jerusalem as the capital of Judah and Samaria as the capital of Israel.

This White Paper says that Palestine had a properous population of the Canaanites — before the first Israeli invasion during the 14th century B.C., and that the Cananites of Palestine had a very advanced civilisation, and that it was superior to that of the nomadic Israelites.

The Jews Disperse :

Roman Empire spread from West to East. It conquered Palestine; or if the Zionists assert, Israel. Israel collapsed in 63 B.C. before the advancing Romans. It were the Romans who destroyed the famous temple built by Solomon. The Jews fled, they simply dispersed wherever they could settle down with their finance in their pockets.

For 500 years the Romans ruled Palestine.

ROMAN DEFEAT :

In the 7th century A.D. the Arabs under Islam drove away the Romans from Palestine. And most of the population of this land embraced Islam. Those who did not, either became Christians or Jews. There is ample historical evidence

to show that not all the Jews can claim to be the descendents of Abraham. Decidedly a great many are converts.

The Arab triumphs continued for nearly 400 years when they were supreme from Aden in the South to Damascus in the North.

The Crusades started in 1099 A.D. and plagued the area till 1517. Palestine was the battleground. By 1517 the after-effects of the Crusades were liquidated and once more the entire territory returned to the Islamic rule. This was the era of Turkish conquests when every inch of the Arabian Peninsula came under the Ottoman Rule.

JEWISH COLONIES :

First signs of the modern Jewish colonies in Palestine appear between 1901 and 1907. These were established at Petah, Tigrah, Reshon-le Zigon, Geder and Lower Galilee. But with all the efforts of the Zionist organisations, the world over, the inflow of the Jewish immigrants to Palestine remained very low.

It was by 1882 that the leaders of Zionism were persuading the Jews to go and colonise Palestine. But it was only after the First Zionist Congress, held in Basle in Switzerland under the leadership of Theodor Herzl in the August of 1897, that the Zionist movement struck roots and the first flow, as stated above, started in 1901.

It is very amusing to find from the pages of history that the Zionist leadership was very much divided on the matter of JEWISH HOMELAND. At one stage a Jewish National Homeland was suggested to be established in South America, and there was a positive resolution to this effect to find a homeland for the Jews in Africa.

The British Government had offered the Sixth Congress of the Zionists the territory of Uganda for the establishment of a Jewish National Home. The Zionists accepted the offer by a vote of 295 against 175. This was in 1903.

OTTOMON EMPIRE DISINTEGRATES :

In the beginning of the century Turkey had been declared by the British propagandists as the "Sick-Man of Europe". And this designation was accompanied by positive anti-Turkish intrigues by Britain who incited the imperial Italy to declare war against Turkey in 1911. And Turkey lost most of her African colonies at this time. Then came the Balkan Wars of 1912 when further chunks of Turkey's European territories were torn away from the Porte.

Turkey's entry in the World War I on the side of the Central Powers (Germany, and Austro-Hungarian, Hapsburg Empire) led the British to weaken Turkey on the Asian mainland.

THE ARABS ENTICED :

The British diplomats in the Middle East started approaching Arabs. The British High Commissioner in Egypt and Sudan, Sir Henry McMahon initiated talks with the Sherif of Mecca, Sherif Hussein, the great-grandfather of the present ruler of Jordan. Sherif Hussein fell in with the British approaches in 1915. A series of letters passed between Sherif Hussein and Sir Henry McMahon. In one of his letters in reply to the Sherif, McMahon declared, Great Britain is prepared to recognise and support the independence of the Arabs in all regions within the limits demanded by the Sherif.

In accordance with the accord arrived at with the British,

the Arabs started their revolt against the Turks by occupying the town of Aqaba.

BRITAIN DOUBLE-CROSSES :

After the signing of the McMahon-Hussein Agreement of October, 24, 1915 and setting the Arab fury against the Turks, British diplomacy started the game of double-dealing. The Anglo-French negotiations, known in history as Sykes-Picot Agreement, recognised the French suzerainty over most of Syria including northern Palestine.

This Sykes-Picot Agreement was signed on May, 16, 1916.

ZIONISM BUSY :

All along this period the Arabs were unaware of the British machinations against them, but the Zionists knew all about it. Their leaders met Sir Mark Sykes in London in February 1917, and through Sir Mark Sykes they assured the British government that they would support the idea of a British Protectorate over Palestine.

BALFOUR & THE ZIONISTS :

Secret negotiations between the British government and the Zionist leaders were briskly developing. The Zionist pressure on Lord Balfour, the then British Foreign Secretary, made the latter to ask the Zionist leader Weizmann to submit to the former a declaration enunciating the Zionist demand and stance — this was in July, 1917. The first draft of, what later on came to be known as the Balfour Declaration laid down in concrete form the principle of Britain accepting Palestine as the National Home for the Jewish People. The BALFOUR DECLARATION would have been inflicted on the Arabs on July,

18, 1917 but there were three important British statesmen who opposed this move. These were: Sir Edwin Montague, the Financial Secretary of the Treasury, Dr. Claude Montefiore and Mr. Lucien Wolf.

ZIONISM TRIUMPHS :

The Foreign policies of Britain were not guided by a Financial Secretary or a host of influential British statesmen. The policy was laid down by the interests of British finance capital and by the British anxiety to harness the Zionist capital in winning the war against the Central Powers. Thus, the protests and opposition of the Financial Secretary, Sir Edwin Montague or the other two top politicians did not matter much. Zionism had to be appeased. And Lord Balfour came out with his notorious declaration in the form of a letter to Mr. Edmond de Rothschild. These are the wordings of that **BALFOUR DECLARATION:**

"His Majesty's Government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a NATIONAL HOME for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights and political status of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country." The date is November, 2, 1917.

This whimsical British statesman did not know while writing the above lines that he was laying the foundations of the destruction of a whole people known to history from time immemorial as the Palestinians.

TURKEY COLLAPSES :

Zionist capital and Arab man-power brought Turkey to her knees. At noon of December 9, 1917 Turkey surrendered Jerusalem to General Allenby, who while entering the city declared crazily in triumph and with ego, the end of the Crusades.

And the "non-Jewish communities" mentioned in Balfour Declaration possessed the 98% of the population of Palestine — both Muslims and Christians and both known as Palestinian Arabs in that year.

ARABS BETRAYED BY BRITAIN :

As if hypnotised by the British promises even after the Balfour Declaration of November, 2, 1917, the Arabs went on pressing on the retreating Turkish armies from the middle of the Arabian Peninsula.

Feisal, the elder son of Sherif Hussein of Mecca entered Damascus at the head of a so-called Arab Liberation Army — in fact an army working as mercenaries for British and allied interests, or more exactly working in the interests of the Anglo-French entente.

But King Feisal was not allowed to reap the fruits of his victories in Syria, General Allenby entered in Damascus at the head of a British army composed of the British and colonial slave units from India. These two entries into the Syrian capital took place in September, October of 1918.

To the great chagrin of the Arabs, General Allenby declared that he was in command of all the occupied terrirories until a peace treaty was signed with the Turkish Government.

Zionism, in the meanwhile was given full lift by the

British rulers for the part the Zionists, the world over, had played in aiding the Allies in the defeat of the Central Powers.

The British Government sent a Zionist Commission to Palestine to prepare plans for its occupation in conformity with the Balfour Declaration. Dr. Weizmann was one of the most important personalities of the Commission. He had helped the British Government during the War in the production of dynamite and for this particular service of his, Lloyd George, the then Premier of Britain had expressed his gratitude.

The Commission contained many other important Zionists of the period like Levi Brianchine of Italy, and Sylvain Levi of France claiming to be a non-Zionist Jew but who was chosen by one of the top Zionists of the period — Edmond de Rothschild. Later on some more Zionists were included in the Commission.

CARVING AN "EMPIRE" :

In the meanwhile the World Zionist Organisation was busy putting blue marks on the new Jewish or rather a Zionist State. Its Advisory Committee decided to work out a plan describing the boundaries of the new State. The Committee drafted a proposal claiming the boundaries thus: In the North the Litani River (now in South Lebanon) emptying its waters into the Mediterranean in the South-west of that country) extending to the city of Baniyas, in Syria. In the South-east the Committee recommended the territory just a few miles South of Damascus.

The writer would crave the indulgence of his reader for extending this piece with burdensome history, yet it is all a part of the human history and British perfidy. Whereas, the

account prior to the Basle Convention of the World Zionists in 1897 can be challenged as a part of mythology and mysticism, yet no body can ignore the facts dealing with modern history of these two centuries.

We shall be as brief as possible in giving the chronolgy of the events from the Paris Peace Conference of 1919 to the period when Israel was ushered in by the United Nations. Nevertheless we shall once more emphasise the truth that throughout this period the British role was of double-dealing so far as the Arabs are concerned. And the Arabs themselves are to be blamed for putting their case into the hands of Sherif Hussein of Mecca and his two sons who all three have had no glorious role to play, and there are many in the Arab world today who denounce all these three as traitors. And the Arabs have denounced in 1972, the last in the line, King Hussein of Jordan as a traitor to the Arabs. The writer has no claims to passing any judgment, yet what is apparent cannot be hidden — the alliance with Britain has always cost the Arabs their fortunes.

The writer cannot proceed any further without telling the reader that it has been the British interested intellectual who has extolled the cult of Zionism and pampered the Jews with the idea of the "Chosen People". It is the British writers who have over-emphasised the fact that the Zionists have been promised by God the land of Palestine.

There is no evidence and no logical data to prove that God came on earth to tell the ancestors of the modern Zionists that you are conferred with the title of the "Chosen People" of God. And there is no witness to the fact that God bestowed the land of Palestine upon the Zionists. If God had any special compunction for the Jews then He would have conferred on them the land of Kashmir, which all the poets and

rulers have sung as the Paradise on earth. There is a Persian couplet which says, "Agar firdous bar rou-ai zemien ast, hamien ast o hamien ast o hamien ast" (If there is any paradise on earth, it is here, it is here, it is here — and this is said about Kashmir).

HISTORY CONTINUED :

What follows next is the working of British imperialism against the Arabs and winning over Zionism — in other words, harnessing the Zionist finance capital to advance the British designs and interests in collaboration with this finance capital. And in this, British imperialism, posing as the protector of the World Jewry won over the simple Jewish masses in advancing its own and the cause of world Zionism.

To narrate the history of after World War I, in as brief sentences as possible, the writer would like to give a chronological brief account from Versailles Treaty to the present period.

World War First, officially ended at 11 O'clock on November 11, 1918.

Then opened the Peace Conference in Paris in January, 1919. Britain brought four outstanding pro-British figures to the Peace Conference: King Feisal I* representing the Arabs, Dr. Chaim Weizmann representing the World Zionist Organisation and H.H. The Agha Khan and the Maharajah of Bikaner,

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* It ought to have been mentioned that when Feisal entered Damascus at the head of the so-called Arab liberation army, he had proclaimed himself the King of Syria. But British agreement known as Picto-Sykes agreement with France gave Syria away to France and France had no place for a King under its wings.

Feisal thus having been deprived by Lord Allenby of the sovereignty of Kingdom of Syria was crowned King of Mesopotamia which now came to be known as Iraq.

Sir Ganga Singh, to represent India. (The Maharajah offended the British in one of his speeches at the time).

However, not intending to go into unnecessary details about the Peace Conference we shall take up only the Zionist-Arab side only.

The World Zionist Organisation submitted a memorandum, the wordings of which run parallel to the lines of the Balfour Declaration.

The salient points of this Memorandum contained the following resolution:

1. Recognition of the title of the Jews to Palestine and their right for a National Home in Palestine.
2. The boundaries of this new State to contain the area including southern Lebanon, Mount Herman, Aqaba and Transjordan.
3. The establishment of a mandate for Palestine under the British administration.

The other points of the resolution emphasised the importance of the Balfour Declaration; the colonisation by the Jews of Palestine and the recognition of a Council representing the Jews.

THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS :

During this period of the Peace Conference the League of Nations was born and matured to work for the interests of the Entente Cordiale, to be explicit to work for the Anglo-French interests.

De facto, the League of Nations had assigned the mandate over Palestine to Britain from the very time this miser-

able Organisation came into existence; but the official seal to this deal was put in April, 1920 when the Supreme Council of the League of Nations assigned the mandate officially to Great Britain.

THE ERA OF RIOTS :

British imperialism is notorious for fomenting communal riots, as the entire history of British rule in India shows. Prior to the British rule there were no communal riots in India nor were any in Palestine before the occupation of Britain of that country. Jews, Muslims and Christians had all lived in Palestine quite amicably inspite of the Balfour Declaration of November, 2, 1917.

Minor riots had started in 1920 but these assumed stupendous dimensions next year. Jaffa, Jerusalem, Hebron all had these riots between the Jews on one side and the Arabs (Christians and Moslems) on the other.

And this paved the way for the exploitation of this country.

ZIONIST CAPITALISM :

Zionist capitalism had surveyed the industrial potentialities of Palestine long before the World War I, but it was after the capture of Palestine by Britain that the Jewish capital began to flow into this country. American Zionists brought in their finance in abundance in 1936 and started investing in agriculture and industry.

What lured the world financial interests to Palestine are the figures of the mineral wealth buried in that country; and the writer is quoting the same from Cheiro, whom many dub as a pro-Zionist writer, palmist and astrologer.

Cheiro was a champion of the Zionist cause without being a Jew. And it is not necessary for one to champion a cause by being strictly a member of the particular society or community he is extolling.

Cheiro has written a lot about the future of the Jews and while doing so he comes to a section dealing with the mineral wealth of Palestine. Here is what he says in a lengthy footnote in his book WORLD PREDICTIONS. —

"UNFATHOMED WEALTH OF THE DEAD SEA AND PALESTINE"

£240,524,000,000.

"Four great financial groups — British, American, European, and Anglo-Palestinian — are hankering after the concession to work the huge mineral and chemical deposits which lie hidden in the depths of the Dead Sea.

"The imagination reels before the stupendous figures of the wealth estimated by the experts to be the value of the deposits. Here are a few of the plums of the Dead Sea fruit upon which the potential concessionaries are basing their calculations :

	Tons	Value
POTASH	1,300,000,000	£14,000,000,000
BROMINE	853,000,000	£52,000,000,000
SALT	11,900,000,000	£9,500,000,000
GYPSUM	81,000,000	£25,000,000
MANGNESIUM	22,000,000,000	£165,000,000,000
	Total	£240,524,000,000

"These figures are based upon current market prices.

"This total represents an amount equal to the **aggregate income of Great Britain for 100 years**. And it is alluded to calmly by the experts as being a "reasonable estimate" of the wealth lying fallow in one of the most dreary, arid and desolate places of the earth's surface. (Extract from newspapers 24th and 25th October, 1927)."

In the context of the above figures the interest of the capitalists of the world — especially the Americans, British and West Germans and minor capitalist groups — can be understood. And this accounts for all the support that Israel is getting and will be going on getting from these powers in all its designs and expanionist policies.

The course of events since the termination of the World War I, and more so after the termination of the World War II shows it clearly how efforts are being exerted to keep the Zionists supreme, and to suppress the liberties of the Palestinian Arabs, and encouraging Israeli aggressive policies.

HEBREW STATE :

The Arabs were cheated by the British beyond doubt. All the promises to the Arabs by the British rulers were for rallying their support to win victory against the Turks. And after that victory, the main role of the British administration became suppressing the Arabs with colossal repression, and encouraging mass Jewish immigration.

The British had decided to create a Zionist State in Palestine, and in 1936 Lloyd George, the British Premier commenting on the Arabs in open revolt said in these words : "So, the Arabs fear that Palestine might become a Hebrew State? Well, a Hebrew State it will become." This was Lloyd

George's assurance to Mr. Ben Gurion and Dr. Weizmann during the course of a conversation between the three.

After the above quotation from the British Premier it is not necessary to detail the successive steps that Britain took in evolving Israel. Side by side with this, military training of the Jewish immigrants was encouraged by the British administration. General Wavell ordered Major Wingate to train a Jewish territorial unit. The role of General Wavell is well known to the Indians because of the unprecedented repression he carried on in India as a Viceroy during the Second World War, when the Indian masses were fighting for their liberation.

ZIONISM TERRORISES :

Zionism started a reign of terror against the Palestinians with the help of the British rulers. Stern gangs and Hagganah bands wrought havoc on the Arab villagers and citizens. And the Arab challenge was prompt side by side with the Hagganah terrorists, the Arab commando groups sprang up.

As early as 1936 even Arab women took up arms against both the Zionist elements and the British administration. And there are plenty of photographs with the Palestinian organisations showing their women fighting side by side with their men.

With the velocity of official and un-official terror against the Arabs the mass uprisings and strikes began to spread.

The segregated Arab political units organised themselves into an Arab Higher Committee, in 1936 Spring. The Arab Executive published, and demanded the expulsion of all foreigners. The General Strike declared by the Arab Executive spread all over Palestine from Jerusalem. This strike

was maintained for six months. The Zionists and the British both attacked the Arabs. Arab volunteers began to pour into Palestine from other Arab areas, and the main fighters took to the hills. This was the birth of the commando movement in Palestine, though earlier there had been some stray cases of individual actions against the rulers and their proteges. By the end of 1936 the Arab movement had become a national revolt. Violence and sabotage became rampant. Roads were barricaded and trains derailed. Iraqi and Syrian volunteers came and strengthened the numbers of the Commandos. By August 1936 the commandos had got ample supplies of arms and trainers in guerrilla warfare coming in from outside; and the technique of fighting improved.

The British administration put in more than 20,000 troops to crush the Palestinian movement.

Inspite of all the force that the British used against the Palestinians they could not curb the rebellion. However, the British had powerful allies in the Arab ruling class. Three Arab Kings viz., Saudi Arabia, Transjordan and Iraq appealed to the Arab Higher Committee to stop their activities. And the Arab Committee responded to this appeal, and thus the movement crashed for the time being.

The Arab potentates who were helpful in the killing of the Palestinian revolt did not raise their little finger when Britain arrested five of the most important members of the Arab Higher Committee and deported them to the Sychelles Islands (in the Indian Ocean).

PARTITION PLAN :

Great Britain appointed a Commission to work up the details of partition of Palestine. This was known as Peel Commission. It was near the middle of 1937.

In July 1937 the Commission recommended the partition, and a Jewish State to be formed.

And the League of Nations authorised British authorities to prepare a detailed partition plan.

WORLD WAR II & ZIONISM :

Before the World War II began on September 1st, 1939 Britain had succeeded in crushing the Palestinian revolt by killing more than 4000 in 1936 alone. The list of the wounded was more than 2000. And nearly 6000 Arabs were held in detention camps.

On the outbreak of the war between Great Britain and Germany in September 1939 the Zionists pledged their full support to the British, and Ben Gurion boasted of "contributing half a million Jews to the Allied Cause ... "This," he said, "would give them a share in the final victory. The First World War brought us the Balfour Declaration, the second ought to bring us the Jewish State."

The Nazi insensate crimes against the Jews, of mass massacres had no parallel in the known history. This Hitlerian feat created a world-wide sympathy for the Jews and gave plenty of nourishment to the Zionist ambitions. And the establishment of a Jewish State became an accomplished fact.

GERMANY COLLAPSES :

On May 9, 1945 Nazi Germany surrendered. The war in Europe ended. And the Zionists the world over celebrated this victory with the demand of their homeland in Palestine.

In June 1945 the United Nations Organisation was created and it was pro-Zionist in its content at the time. President

Roosevelt of U.S. had died during the War and he was succeeded by Mr. Harry S. Truman who consistently refused to listen to the Arabs and told them bluntly through four United States ambassadors in the Arab countries, "I am sorry, gentlemen, but I have to answer to hundreds of thousands who are anxious for the success of Zionism; I do not have hundreds of thousands of Arabs in my constituents."

And every would-be American President has the same answer against the Arabs if they approach him for leniency towards their cause and case.

The United States was almost supreme in the United Nations when it was inaugurated, and in many cases dictated its policies. Thus, it was not difficult to foresee a 'yes' vote for the creation of Zionist State in Palestine if the United Nations' General Assembly had to tackle with this problem.

The General Assembly of the United Nations met on November 26, 1947 to consider its Ad. Hoc Committee's report about partition. On November 29, 1947 the General Assembly voted for the partition of Palestine. Voting was 33 for and 13 against. Jews accepted, Arabs rejected.

ISRAEL — THE JEWISH STATE :

By the November, 29, 1947 resolution of the General Assembly of the United Nations the State of Israel came into being; so far on paper only. The British were still ruling Palestine and the Stern Gang, the Haganah bands and Irgun Zvai Leumi groups were busy killing the Arabs.

Arms for the would-be Jewish State were being purchased all over the western world and the British administration ignored the delivery of weapons to the Zionists. Killing at large scale started.

To quote Dr. Sayed Nofal, Assistant Secretary General of the Arab League : "... the Irgun Zvai Leumi, a Zionist terrorist organisation attacked Deir Yassin, a defenceless Arab village without provocation. After looting everything of value, they turned to human booty, slaughtering without mercy 250 of the 300 men, women and children of the village. Some of the unfortunate women who survived were stripped of their clothes and herded into trucks. They were then paraded through the streets of the Jewish quarter of Jerusalem and subjected to the insults of the onlookers.

"When the horror of this massacre became known, the murderers tried to conceal their crime. About 150 mutilated corpses were dumped into a well and access to the scene was prevented when Mr. Jack Regonier, Representative of the International Red Cross, asked permission of the Jewish. Agency to inspect the village, he was delayed a whole day in order to allow the assassins time to clear the traces of their frightful act."

The date of this massacre is April 9, 1948, and the writer of this pamphlet cannot describe this ferocious act better than in the words of a British Secretary of State then and in the words of a Zionist himself.

The British Secretary of State for Colonies announced in the British House of Commons :

"This barbarous aggression was a proof of savagery. It was a crime that added upto a long list of atrocities committed by the Zionists to this day and for which we can find no words of revulsion and grave concern." And a British Zionist Jew, Mr. John Kimche, in his book "Seven Fallen Pillars", writes :

"... On Friday April 9, 1948 a commando force composed

of Irgun and Stern soldiers raided the village. There was no obvious occasion for them to do so ... Nothing they have said has explained, or can explain away, the murder of some 250 innocent Arabs, among them more than a hundred women and children. No less disgusting was the subsequent publicity parade by the Irgun of a number of poor Arab prisoners through the streets of Jerusalem."

"The massacre of Deir Yassin was the darkest stain on the Jewish record throughout all the fighting ... it was justified on the grounds that it led to the panic flight of the remaining Arabs in the Jewish State area and so lessened the Jewish casualties."

Other writers like the British writer Arnold Toynbee have also written about the Zionist orgies against the Arabs.

And the list of these massacres is too great to be mentioned.

After Deir Yassin came the tragedies of the Arab village of Nasr el Din near Tiberias; Wadi Araba and Ghor As-Safi. And continuing after the establishment of Israel, we get Christmas massacre near Bethlehem; Falameh; Idna Surif and Wadi Fukim, too numerous to be enumerated.

ISRAEL PROCLAIMED :

On the dead bodies of the Arabs was built the edifice of Israel. Britain evacuated Palestine, and the Jews took over large chunks of the country and proclaimed the State of Israel on May, 15, 1948.

ZIONISM VERSUS BRITAIN :

Before the formation of the State of Israel, the war-time co-operation between the allies and Zionists continued only

upto some months of 1945 i.e. after the termination of the war and surrender of Germany (in May) and of Japan (in August, 1945).

The World War II had made Great Britain sufficiently weak to take up any positive action in world affairs unilaterally. She depended in every step she took on the concurrence and guidance of the U.S. State Department. Although there was not much for her to fear the Arabs yet her vital oil interests dictated some delay in putting into form the Balfour Declaration and the promises that she and her allies had made to the Zionists during the war time.

This delay aroused the suspicion of the Zionists, and the Jewish Agency planned to force Britain by a carefully laid out plan of terror. The scheme was announced by the Executive of this agency in the following words:

"It has also been suggested that we cause one serious incident; we would then publish a declaration to the effect that it is only a warning and an indication of much more serious incidents that would threaten the safety of all British interests in the country; should the government decide against us ... The Stern Group have expressed their willingness to join us completely on the basis of our programme of activity."

It is stated, even Ben Gurion supported the actions against Britain. And there is a long list of actions against the British rulers in between the termination of the World War II and the founding of the Israeli State.

To ilustrate these, one example would suffice as to how desperate the Zionists had grown at British dilly-dallying tacties in the matter of handing over all power into the hands of the Zionists:

"1946 — 22, July : The King David Hotel is Blown-up:*

"Etzel, the right-wing terrorist group, mounted operation Tick, on July 22, 1946, some of their saboteurs, disguised as Arabs, managed to enter the King David Hotel in Jerusalem, which was the HQ of the British forces. A little later, a terrific explosion shook the town, and when the smoke and dust had cleared it was seen that one wing of the Hotel had completely disappeared, 200 bodies — most of the British, but some of them Jews and Arabs too — were found beneath the rubble."

If we give credence to the attitude of the two American Presidents, viz, Roosevelt and Truman, then there was no need for the Zionists to hurry with their anti-British operations. During the YALTA CONFERENCE between President Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin, Roosevelt had declared in clear terms : "I am a Zionist."

And all through this period of 25 years after the inauguration of the State of Israel, United States has supported Israel in all her ambitions, aggressions and expansionist designs.

This much will suffice to close this chapter of the formation of the new State in the heart of Arabland.

Freedom fighters are never designated as terrorists. But those who fight not only the established government and the innocent owners of the land they are not only to be called terrorists but marauders and usurpers. After all millions of the Arabs, the original inhabitants of Palestine are lying and languishing in unhealthy camps and tents because of Zionist terrosiom.

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* A.B.C. of Palestine Problem.

THE ARABS WAKE UP :

The colossal acts of violence that Zionists perpetrated against the Palestinians awakened the Arabs of other countries to unite for an alliance in defence of the Palestinian rights.

At this time, Nokrashy Pasha was the Premier of Egypt. He announced to the world that Egyptian forces had been authorised to enter Palestine. Forces sent by the Trans-Jordan government reached the Damascus Gate of Jerusalem on May, 20, 1948. And in the South, Egyptian units reached Beersheba. There were some token units from Syria, Lebanon and Iraq too.

The determination of the then Arab Governments can be gauged from these figures of the Arab forces put up against the well organised Zionist units. Brig-General Glubb, known to history as Glubb Pasha estimated the man-power strength of the Arab forces ready for field combat on May, 15, 1948 as follows :

Egypt	10,000
Arab Legion	4,500
Syria	3,000
Lebanon	1,000
Iraq	3,000

We shall not dwell long on the 1948 Arab-Israeli War and just sum up in a few sentences:

Security Council of the United Nations ordered ceasefire on May, 24, 1948. Although the Arabs rejected this yet ceased fighting. Sporadic fighting here and there continued till November of that year when the balance shifted in favour of the Zionist forces. And it is said Egyptians were left alone to face the Israelis, and thus they retreated.

By this time most of the major powers of the world had recognised Israel. The United Nations, taking the initiative for peace-making, appointed a Swede, Count Bernadotte as the mediator between the Arabs and the Israelis. He submitted his report in Paris in November 1948 and it was disliked by the Israelis. As a price of his mediation Count Bernadotte paid with his life. He, along with a French observer, met death at the hands of the members of the Stern Gang.

A book by the name of "Bernadotte Affair" published not long ago gives a vivid picture of this black act in human history.

To end this first phase of the Arab-Israeli War we should now close it with this much information only that the Israelis and Egyptian representatives under U.N. umbrella met at Rhodes Island and a General Armistice came into existence on February, 24, 1949.

As the theme of this pamphlet is not to delve into the Arab-Israeli conflict in the wider sense, we shall now come to the Palestinian activities only.

We shall also, for the time being, not deal with the 1956 Tripartite Aggression of Britain, France and Israel on Egypt and the inglorious retreat by all the three within a short time.

Without any hesitation, we shall enter the decade of sixties and describe the activities of the Palestinian liberation movement as much as the data is at our disposal.

BIRTH OF THE P.L.O. :

For a long time after the inauguration of the State of Israel what remained of the Palestinian problem was commonly known as the refugee problem. The reactionary ele-

ments in the Arab pro-West States had almost killed the ardour of the Palestinians to rise up and demand their homeland.

But the Arab League which had come into being in 1945 took a positive step towards the Palestinian cause in 1963. In its 39th session the Council of the League of the Arab States (commonly now known as the Arab League) held in September 1963, elected Dr. Ahmed Shukairy as Palestine representative on the Arab League.

The first signs of organised life in the Palestinian organisation appeared in May 1964. The First Palestinian National Congress met in Jerusalem on May 28, 1964. It elected Dr. Shukairy as its Chairman. King Hussein himself attended the function and almost all the Arab Kings and Heads of State sent their representatives.

Among the 400 delegates attending the Congress there were ministers, members of the Parliament of Jordan, men of religion, doctors, lawyers, engineers, representatives of the women's organisations, of students and trade unions, as also peasants' representatives were there.

Continuing its open session on June, 2, the Congress recommended the setting up of the Palestine Liberation Organisation. It decided to set up Palestine Committees in almost all Arab inhabited areas, from the villages to the towns. The Congress also decided to establish representative offices in Moscow, New Delhi, Peking, United Nations Head Quarters and in all the African countries.

The P.N.C. proclaimed a National Charter with 29 articles. The most important points of this Charter can be summed up as follows :

Right of self-determination after liberation; to recognise all those as Palestinians who resided in Palestine until 1947, and to recognise their children as Palestinians; Jews of Palestine origin to be regarded as Palestinians; different ideologies and different social, political and economic creeds not to distract people to unite for national liberation.

Further, it laid down : Three motives to govern the Palestinians: National Unity, National Mobilisation and Liberation.

Another important step the National Congress took was to declare September 10 as the Palestine Liberation Army Day.

The Conference elected Dr. Shukairy as the President of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

PALESTINE LIBERATION ARMY :

Thirteen Arab nations with fourteen flags, sat around a Round Table in the main Grand Hall of the Montazah Palace in Alexandria on September 5, 1964. Kings were flanked by the Presidents and all spoke one language, and had one purpose — to decide the fate of Palestine.

In the opening session, the floor was mostly occupied by the Arab League Secretary General, Mr. Abdel Khalek Hassuna — the representative of the 14th flag.

The main emphasis in the Arab Summit session was mostly on the liberation of Palestine. The Summit approved the creation of the Palestine Liberation Army. It was decided that the cost of such an army would be borne mostly by Egypt, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

We have reached a stage in our treatment of the Palestine history when a reader can ask, "What about the details of the 1948, 1956 and 1967 Arab-Israeli Wars?"

The humble reply is that though the events of these three stages are very important yet they can only be dealt within the context of the major struggle i.e., the Arab-Israeli conflict.

If an opportunity arises, and if there is sufficient demand for the history of these three periods the writer may lift his pen again.

But, for the present he would like to limit himself to the Palestinian events including the history in brief of the Palestine resistance.

PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE :

In the foregoing pages the birth of the Palestine National Congress, the Palestine Liberation Organisation and the Palestine Liberation Army have been discussed. Nevertheless, it is necessary here to state that the PLO and all its allied bodies mentioned above are the creation of a much later date than the revolutionary nuclei that have existed ever since the creation of the State Of Israel when the Palestinians in millions were driven out of their homes and hearths.

The PLO itself was created out of the Al Fateh, Abtal al-Aouda (Heroes of the Return) and the Palestinian section of the Arab Nationalist Movement. Later on the PLO came to absorb the Saeqa (the Lightening — a Baathist organisation with Syrian affinities).

The PELP (The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine) had one of its nuclei in the Abtal al-Aouda, and operated of its own.

THE AL FATAH :

After the 1948 Arab-Israeli War a great mass of the Palestinians were flung helter-skelter all over the Arab Middle East and the bulk in millions in refugee camps. Political life had become extinct in these people and despair ruled the camps all over the refugee areas. The only hope was pinned on the United Nations resolutions asking Israel to take the refugees back and restore their lands and homes. But Israel refused to take back any. These expectations of return through the United Nations faded out by 1952.

In the period of 1952-53 there were some weak-kneed Palestinian political parties operating in the Middle East. There was a Baath Party, then there was the Arab Nationalist Movement, known by its Arabic name of Harkat-al-Qomiyin-al-Arab. Besides, there was the weak Communist Party of Jordan and the Muslim Brotherhood. But there was no strong organised Palestine liberation group as such.

1956 Tripartite Aggression against Egypt severely shook the Palestinians. The Israelis had occupied the Gaza Strip for several months and further disorganised the Palestinians, spread all over the city and country-side of the Strip.

It was at this time that the nucleus of the Al Fateh was set up. It consisted of students and lower middle class elements. And it was the first organised militant expression of the Palestinian resistance. When the movement began to grow, some Arab governments opposed it vehemently. Some went so far as to denounce the movement as inspired by the CENTO.

Faced by the official Arab opposition, the Al Fateh as also other Palestinian resistance elements had to conceal their activities not only from Israel but also from the reactionary

Arab governments too. And this was not without a solid reason. House arrests, prisons and worse treatment was the order of the day against the resistance people. Jordan proved the worst in this respect.

On January 1, 1965, the Al Fateh announced its first Commando action against Israel. Many Arab States opposed this move. They started checking the Palestinian camps and resorted to repression. And when after the first action against Israel the Commando was returning to his base in Jordan he was shot by the Jordanian Army, which it is alleged, had standing orders to shoot at such actionists.

As stated already, the Palestinians had awakened to organising after the 1956 Tripartite Aggression. In between 1958 and 1961, the Al Fateh had set up a military organisation known as Al Assifa (The TEMPEST). This movement grew out of a nucleus in the side organisation called, Harkat-Al-Tahrir-Al Falastini (Movement of the Liberation of Palestine).

It was after these developments that the Arabs of other zones felt the necessity of giving a shape to the political expression of the Palestinian demands. The PLO was created by the Palestine National Congress meeting in Jerusalem in May-June of 1964. And the PLA (Palestine Liberation Army) was created when the Arab Heads of State met in Alexandria in an Arab Summit on September 5. 1964.

Although in between 1964 and 1967 there were no great actions by any of the militant elements in the Palestinian organisations yet assiduous efforts were exerted at organising.

The Al Fateh which had propped up as the main militant expression of the Palestinian struggle have had up to that time no political education to impart to its members. But after the

1967 the Al Fateh not only developed a political line but a social welfare line too.

Side by side with Al Fateh, by 1966 two other groups made their appearance. PFLP (Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine), the strongest organisation after Al Fateh announced its birth in the November of 1966. Then, in the beginning of 1967 came into existence the Shebab-Al-Tha'r (Avenging Youth). Thus, the Palestinian resistance had begun developing even before the 1967 War, and Israel, exasperated, and with ambitions of expansion, struck at the three Arab States whom US President Johnson had assured that Israel would not open first if the Arabs do not initiate the fight.

AFTER 1967 :

After 1967 the activities of the Al Fateh and PFLP and other militant bodies intensified. The PFLP concentrated on actions outside on Israeli and US interests; they hijacked planes and carried on several sabotage activities. But the Al Fateh remained active almost entirely within the occupied territories and in the Israel proper. Its recruitment increased after a secret meeting held on June 30th, 1967.

THE BATTLE OF KARAMEH :

The most glorious chapter in the history of the commandos of Palestinian origin is the Battle Of Karameh. This was fought on March 21, 1968 when the Israeli forces with tanks and air cover crossed into Jordan. Hitherto the tactics of the guerrillas were 'hit and run' but on this day they received the order from their High Command to stand fast and fight. They fought for twelve hours against tanks and planes. The press reported that Israeli losses in this battle were not in-

considerable. When the Israelis retreated they left behind on the battle-field a number of tanks.

Karameh was a prestige-battle for the Palestinians, and with this their spirits rose and their numbers increased.

RETROGRADE STEP :

The enemies of Palestine Resistance were working hard inside Jordan. Provocations by people like Tahir Dablan, said to be an agent of the Palace, resulted on November 4, 1968 in battle between the Jordanian army and the Commandos. For several hours on that date battle raged around the camp of Al-Wahdat. Inspite of their using heavy artillery, the Royal troops did not succeed in crushing the Palestinians.

And the Jordanian monarch summoned Yasser Arafat, the Head of the Palestine Liberation Organisation as well as the Chief of the Al Fateh Movement and negotiated peace with him.

Whatever the negotiations, the result was that the hostility of the Palace went on increasing against the Palestine Resistance Movement, culminating in the battles — sanguinary battles — against Palestinians in September, 1970. Since then the liquidation of the Palestinian Resistance by Jordanian Government is proceeding briskly and steadily. The following press reports would shown how the mopping operations against the Palestinians are supported by Israel and United States:

"Hussein has few friends today. By the Palestinians he is considered, justly, to be a traitor. He must, therefore, be heartened by the praise which he has received from the mouth of General Dayan on June 21st. General Dayan praised King

Hussein and his government for its remarkable achievement against Al Fatah." ("FREE PALESTINE" July, 1971 — London). And more :

"N.Y. Times Reveals :

"US, ISRAEL AGREE TO GIVE MILITARY AID TO HUSSEIN TO ELIMINATE PALESTINIANS."

"AMMAN : US made M16 rifles have recently been made available to Hussein's core army units entrusted with the task of cracking down on the Palestinian Revolution.

"The news was revealed on April 7 by United Press International.

"On April 8, the 'New York Times' quoted US Administration officials saying the United States plans substantial increases in military aid to Jordan, including more modern tanks.

"In a story from its Washington bureau the 'Times' said, Secretary of Defence Melvin R. Laird outlined the plans in replying to a letter from King Hussein presenting Jordan's military assistance needs.

"Other officials were quoted saying the Administration would ask Congress for a 45 million dollar military assistance grant for Jordan in the fiscal year starting in 1972, or 15 million dollars more than it received in the current year.

"The officials said the expanded assistance policy had the tacit approval of Israel, which is known to believe that stability in the area would be enhanced by ELIMINATION OF THE PALESTINIAN COMMANDO THREAT TO HUSSEIN, the 'New York Times' reported.

"The newspaper said, Laird told Hussein a request for additional M16A1 rifles could be met in part from funds already appropriated." ("FATAH", April, 12, 1971 — Beirut-Lebanon).

These two quotations speak a lot and provide a proof and background to the events of July 1971 when the Jordan Government boasted of liquidating all points of guerrilla resistance.

The second week of July, 1971, had seen the fiercest battles between the Palestinians and the Jordanian Army near and around Jerash.

Having no intention to describe the battles which have taken place between the Jordanian Government forces and the Palestinians, the writer has to say in reply to the boasts of those who say that they have crushed revolutionary current or that they have liquidated the Palestinian Resistance or that they have finished for ever the Palestine Liberation Movement, that history would not support these braggarts who have achieved some temporary successes against a revolutionary upsurge. Clearest picture of the revolutionary currents of this century begins from 1905 when both in India and Russia there were some revolutionary uprisings. The Czar in Russia and the British rulers in India had crushed the movements and were snugly sleeping over their successes. But 1917 overthrew Czarism; and some three decades after, India regained her freedom. And during the World War II how many independent countries of Europe and Asia as also Africa had lost their freedom at the hands of the Nazi-Fascist marauders. And what has happened since then? Colony after colony is going out of the grip of the colonialists.

The Palestinian Resistance had in 1971 reached a stage where the conflict had assumed a triangular form. Triangular

battles have in fact been waged in the Middle East. JORDAN-Palestinians-Israel.

The outcome of these battles is not yet clear although both Jordanian Monarchy and Israel as allies are at present in the winning position.

Leaving the phase of these battles and the temporary set-back to the Palestinian Resistance Movement we cover a few pages and lines showing the achievements of the Palestinian Liberation Movement, or to use the official designation of the movement — the P.L.O. (Palestine Liberation Organisation). In fact, on the construction side we have to narrate only the achievements of the AL-FATAH.

PLO- From Construction, Consolidation To Resistance :

During its eight years of existence the Palestine Liberation Organisation has gained world-wide recognition and appreciation. Dr. Ahmed Shukairy, the first President of the P.L.O. got the organisation recognition from all the progressive countries and organisations of the world. He cemented the foundations of the movement. He handed over the Organisation to Mr. Yahya Hamouda, another capable Palestinian who consolidated the organisation within the Arab and Israeli boundaries. If Dr. Shukairy could not stand the strain of the 1967 Arab-Israeli War and stepped down after War, Mr. Hamouda also, after building up the organisation, handed over the reins to a military-minded civilian, Mr. Yasser Arafat And during Mr. Yasser's leadership some sanguinary battles have taken place with the enemies. March, 21st, 1968 Karameh battle won the PLO a world-wide publicity and reputation.

But in the Arab world this battle brought in the jealousy of the Jordanian monarchy which after that date started

devising means and ways to crush the Palestinian Resistance Movement.

And with American-supplied arms, the monarchy has littered the entire territory of Jordan with the Palestinian blood, and driven the freedom-fighters into the Israeli clutches.

But we are not concerned here with the descriptions of the fratricidal war, we want to lay down a few of the achievements of the Palestinian fighters in not only organising their military sector but a social sector too. They laid down the foundations of social welfare with hospitals and schools. They trained the children in the ABC of correct nationalism.

ASHBAL :

The Al-Fatah, over and above their military camps and adult training centres, set up two camps for the training of the young cubs, known as ASHBAL which in English means Young Tigers. The ages of these Ashbal ranged between ten and fourteen years. Here, these cubs got political and military training. And these youngsters had the permission of their parents to be trained for sacrifices.

The training activities of the young were started during Dr. Shukairy's time and continued all through the Presidentship of Mr. Yahya Hamouda. Under Yasser Arafat several improvements took place and more emphasis was laid on the military side.

INTELLECTUALS & LEADERS :

Like every other revolutionary movement in the world the Palestinian struggle has also produced leaders, intellectuals and poets. Whatever their differences in ideologies yet the four names of the leaders are on the tongue of every Arab

and these in addition to the three already mentioned above include the fourth one and that is Dr. George Habash, the leader of the P.F.L.P. (Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine).

On the intellectual side you have got the world famous names like that of Mr. Fayez A. Sayegh, who by his interpretation of the Palestinian problem has gained a reputation of no mean standard.

Among the poets you have got Mr. Mahmoud Darvesh and Mr. Haroun Hashim Rashid. The poem AIDOON of the latter written in 1955 went on the Air on Cairo Radio in 1956, and the Palestinians have adopted this as their National Anthem, and the Palestinian guerrillas have used it as Marching Song.

The writer heard this song first in 1965 on 23rd December, when the Palestinian Commando units had joined the military parade in Port Said reviewed by late President Gamal Abdel Nasser in the company of his Ministers. The song was quite thrilling and no wonder that every Palestinian sings it with pride.*

ALAS THE SOCIAL SERVICES :

All news coming from Jordan show that the Jordanian Army has destroyed not only the Palestinian guerrilla camps but also devastated the refugee tents. And if this is true then what we mention below is a part of dead history:

HOSPITALS, SCHOOLS ETC :

In 1968, the Al Fatah had started setting up a network of public utility services such as health installations. They had set up more than half a dozen of clinics under the directions

* The poem in question is given in the last pages of this booklet.

of expert nurses and Palestinian doctors. There were convalescent homes as also operation arrangements. Their hospital near Amman was called PALESTINE. This hospital was set up in the end of 1967.

The hospital was well equipped with surgical instruments. And to top all this the doctor in charge of the whole establishment did not receive any salary, or rather refused to do so. All that a modern clinic can possess was at the disposal of this and another hospital at SALT with blood-bank and modern equipment. These hospitals treated some five thousand refugee and other patients every week. And treatment, medicine as also operations were all free. Medicines used in the Al-Fatah clinics were multi-vitamins, antibiotic and dermatological products.

And each of the Al-Fatah clinic centre had social side too. Nurses from these clinics used to visit the camps and educate the women there in the principles of hygiene.

Jordan will one day remember how great was the social side of the Al Fatah activity when it realises, that along the entire length of the River Jordan this organisation had built underground medical centres with well qualified doctors and surgeons.

And the schools: What has happened to the numerous schools that the Al Fatah created for refugee children? Is that two-storey pukka building just outside Amman and named 'Jerusalem' still in existence after the Army operations lasting from September 5, 1970 onwards? This school was set up by the Al-Fatah for the orphans of the commandos who had laid down their lives in guerrilla actions.

This school always provided boarding facilities for the children.

The writer has written all this in the past tense because he is sure that all the Al Fatah hospitals, clinics, health centres and schools do not exist any more after the military ruthless operations.

Although the history will continue — the history of Palestine — yet the writer has reached a stage when he should stop in the middle of 1972 and watch the events for future historical developments.

THE LAST PHASE :

The last present phase of the Palestine history is that the movement of liberation lies paralysed in Jordan — the main centre of the Palestinian population. Jordan had got in partition a part of Palestine as also she got the Palestinian population. This population is now living in the status of B-Class citizens under the Hashmite dynasty, and the freedom fighters of the population are either killed or driven into enemy hands.

But Jordan is not the only country where the Palestinians abound. Their guerillas, their intellectuals, their political centres are spread all over the world. Foreigners too have joined their ranks. And whatever the repression, the germs of resuscitation are already there. Capable leaders of Palestine struggle are manning their offices from Peking to Cairo. Here in Cairo the capable Palestinian poet Haroun Hashin Rashid is one of the heads of the local Palestine Liberation Organisation, and Mr. Mahmoud Darvish has shifted after 23 years from Israel to Cairo enlivening the spirit of his people by his lyrics.

"The mills of God grind very slowly", so goes the saying, and the net result of every genuine freedom movement has

been its ultimate victory over the forces of reaction and counter-revolution.

History repeats itself, and will repeat itself again and again.

Revolution takes a heavy toll. It consumes everything that opposes it, and does not spare a Levi Eshkol or a Wasfi Al-Tal if they dare to thwart its victorious Course.

POEM :

Appendix I.

"AA- AE- DOON"
(WE WILL RETURN)

"We Will return, (surely) we will return!

"We are going to return!

"No barriers, no boundaries, no obstacles, no ditches, no fortresses will be able to check us from returning.

"O' Ye, without homes, rise up and shout, we will return to our homes.

"Hearken ye valleys, we are returning!

"Listen, ye mounds, we are returning!

"We are returning for the children,

"We are returning for the young,

"We are returning to reap our harvests,

"We are returning for a Holy War!

"O' Palestine, the Voice from the Ether has commanded us to bear arms, and we have shouldered our guns. And we pledge to engage in our (holy) task undaunted.

"We are returning!

"We will return!"

Poem in Arabic
(By Haroun Hashim Rashid).
(P.L.O. Leader).

A Case Against Zionism

(Written in March 1969, was broadcast on Cairo Radio Asian Service in October-November 1969. Serialised in "ISLAMIC REVIEW" London, March-April issues of 1970.

"RADIANCE" of Delhi published an extract from this on May 18, 1969 under the heading: ZIONISM CAN'T WIN FINAL VICTORY IN PALESTINE).

By Shaukat Usmani

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A WORD

Since the writing of this small pamphlet much water has flown down the Nile. The friends of ZIONISM have spared no efforts in replenishing the arsenal of Israel with Phantoms, Sky-Hawks and other sophisticated weapons.

The arrogance of the Israeli leaders under the patronage of their Western masters has increased; and the world conscience has been benumbed to an unrecognisable degree. The World has forgotten the fate of the aggressors like Hitler, Mussloni and others and has on the contrary created new aggressors plaguing the entire Asian and African continents with their nefarious deeds and designs.

That whimsical Englishman who laid down the foundations of an Israeli Empire in the Middle East did little imagine that his document giving the wandering Jews a home would one day sparkle the fire of the greatest World War that the world had so far seen. The Balfour Declaration can be rightly termed a declaration of injustice, bloodshed and a harbinger of ill omens spreading clouds of darkness and disease, refugee camps and napalm-bomb victims. And over and above all this, sowing the seeds of a World War III.

INTRODUCTION

World imperialism is in the habit of supporting all that is reactionary and counter-revolutionary in the world.

With this in view it supported the Fascism of Italy in the early twenties of this century when Mussolini seized power in Italy after massacring all that was progressive in that country.

And likewise, world imperialism hailed and boosted Herr Hitler when Nazism came into power in Germany in the beginning of thirties.

The main aim and object of the imperialist forces of the world was to exploit the material resources of the undeveloped countries in collaboration with these dangerously aggressive cults. It was the question of sharing power and profits—exploiting the world in unison.

It was only when the Anglo-Saxon capitalist class, in alliance with minor capitalist groups, got the wind that Fascist-Nazism combine wanted to usurp the sole monopoly of world exploitation, that these Powers started a worldwide propaganda against Hitler and Mussolini.

And, no doubt, in this propaganda campaign these imperialist Powers sought and got the full support of all that was progressive and revolutionary in the world of thirties.

The position is very similar today: Today these imperialist forces have found out a new ally in World-Zionism

which has immense wealth and material forces at its disposal, and its technique is very similar to the aggressive cults of the former two Powers of Central Europe (Italy and Germany). The target this time is to harness the immense mineral wealth of the DEAD SEA to boost up the capitalist economy which is gradually tottering now, because of the new progressive forces making headway throughout the world with a programme of social production and social distribution. Moreover, the untapped reservoir embedded in the DEAD SEA, would develop the striking power of these Anglo-Saxon countries when they initiate a nuclear warfare.

This mineral wealth of the DEAD SEA and PALESTINE has long been the target of the world capitalist groups. In fact, before the WORLD WAR II, there were as many as four groups vying with one another for acquiring concessions for exploitation. These were:

The British, the Americans, the European one (led by Germany) and a self-styled group known as the Anglo-Palestinians, all hankering after concessions to this mineral wealth.

The following pages would reveal as to how the Anglo-Saxon groups combined themselves into one undefined consortium to get monopoly of this land of the Arabs by implanting on it an enterprising financially strong community which has been now systematically depriving the original settlers of their homes and lands.

The defeat of Germany and Italy left the U.S.A. and United Kingdom supreme, and they jointly carved out a new State of Israel, thus striving hard to meet success in their ventures for unearthing the millions of tons of POTASH, BROMINE, SALT, GYPSUM, and MAGNESIUM in this land of PALESTINE.

Shaukat Usmani

A CASE AGAINST ZIONISM
ZIONISM & JUDAISM

ZIONISM is not the same thing as **JUDAISM** One is a cult and the other a religion. And then also there is a vast difference between the theory and practice of these two.

In one word : Judaism is as simple or hard as any religion of the world. It is a system of life, governing through some ethics the "chosen people" of the earth and their mode and behaviour. In this, this religion cannot be regarded different from any other religion of the earth; may it be Christianity or Buddhism or even Islam and Hinduism.

But Zionism is different. It is a cult, and a very dangerous and aggressive one in that. Its first principle lays down the seizure of a land which is no property of its by any stretch of imagination. The simplest definition of ZIONISM is laid down as, "A movement for securing national privileges and territory in Palestine."

The claim of the Zionists over Palestine is governed by a fact of history, that they were inhabiting this land in 2000 B.C., and that the name then was CANAAN. But history also tells us that these Jews who came to live in Canaan had come from what was then known as Mesopotamia (now-a-days, IRAQ). And 500 years later these Jews had immigrated to Egypt. And after 40 years of wandering it was Prophet Moses who brought them back to Palestine. But again they scattered all over the world. Finance was always a temptation for them. Finance carried them to lands far off.

Even in recent times the Jewish emigrants can be seen in as far lands as Afghanistan, Bokhara and Samarkand etc., carrying on a very lucrative trade and old-style Banking. Though the fact might not be relevant at present yet it shows the tolerant nature of the Islamic governments and people towards the Jews. And we shall illustrate this side of the case later on.

How does the fact that 2000 years ago the Jews inhabited Palestine entitle them to come back forcibly and drive away the people living in Palestine for over 1000 years or more?

If this theory of **once upon a time** holds good then the Hindus of India have every right and claim on far off places like Vietnam where the relics of Hindu civilisation are still being found. In fact the very name of SAIGON, the capital of South Vietnam is like the Indian names of NAIGAON, SAINGAON, and SHEGAON etc., of the Indian villages and towns.

And the entire dance system of the Balinese in Indonesia is just a copy of the Indian, South Indian dances.

But no Indian has claimed these lands inspite of the awesome swell and increase in the Indian population.

And about the final dispersal of the Jews from Palestine, it was not the work of any Muslim conqueror. These were driven away by the Romans when these were conquered by the Roman Empire in 63 B.C. It were the Romans who destroyed the famous temple built by SOLOMON. And those Jews who could not live under the Roman Empire fled.

This is the history in a nutshell: Why blame the Arabs then?

Have not the Arabs been responsible for the shelter that the Jews, fleeing from the Pogroms and communal riots in

Europe got at the hands of the Arabs? This is the story of the last century.

But it was the ZIONIST movement that changed the entire relationship between the Arabs and the Jews. ZIONISM is a recent cult, and the advent of this cult had the backing of the capitalist Powers who were interested in exploiting the fabulous minerals of the DEAD SEA and Palestine, utilising the mighty finance-capital of the Jews.

Attempt after attempt had been made by the leaders of Zionism to send Zionists for colonisation of Palestine after 1882. But it was only after the First Zionist Congress held at BASLE (in Switzerland) under the leadership of Theodor Herzl that the movement caught roots and flourished. This was in the August of 1897.

COLONISING EFFORTS :

The Zionist efforts at colonising of Palestine, starting from 1897, had to face many hurdles to reach their goal. It was some time in the end of the last century and in the beginning of the twentieth that a Zionist deputation approached Sultan Abdul Hamid of Turkey to allow a skeleton Jewish settlement in Jerusalem. And Sultan Abdul Hamid was known throughout the western world as a reactionary. He refused permission to the delegation. And then the history tells us that Zionist money flowed into Turkey enriching all the propaganda machinery against the Sultan, till he was overthrown by the Young Turks (like Medhet, Talaat and Enver Pashas).

The Young Turks granted the Zionist request, and it is said, one of the three leaders who went to receive the abdication of Sultan Abdul Hamid was a Zionist Jew.

But this permission also did not open the flood-gates of the immigration. As long ago as 1922, when Britain was granted the Mandate for Palestine by the League of Nations, the Jewish population in that country was only 8%, while the Arabs formed 92% of the population. And today, all the original population of Palestine is in the Refugee Camps spread all over the Middle East.

The colonisers of that time possessed only $2\frac{1}{2}\%$ of the land. Today, all the land is theirs.

The real immigration of the Jews into Palestine started after the abdication of Sultan Abdul Hamid of Turkey in 1908, and yet the figure of 8% remained static till 1947. It increased by leaps and bounds after the creation of the new State of Israel by the United Nations.

This is the early history of colonisation.

What follows next is a sordid account of the imperialist conspiracy against the hundred million Arabs.

ARAB-JEWISH RELATIONS :

It does not fall within the province of this small treatise to go into detail about the Arab-Jewish relations. But it is relevant to show the tolerant nature of the Arabs towards all and sundry. It is a universally known fact that the Arabs and Jews belong to the same race known as SEMITIC; but this alone does not justify a tolerance, as we see so many Aryan nations have been fighting against one another for a long time past. And even devotion to modern NATIONALISM does not strive to save the communities in one country from flying at each other's throats.

But there have been intense affinities between the Jews and the Arabs; and as the world Muslims have been copying

the Arabs in all respects, this affinity has been shared by the Islamic people of the whole world.

Not much proof is needed to uphold this statement. A cursory look at the BANK area of London would illustrate to a casual observer how the Pakistani and Indian Muslims co-operate in business with the Jews there, most of whom come from Iran and other Eastern and Western countries of the world. As a matter of fact, almost the entire Carpet trade of Britain is being governed by the Jews and the Muslims.

If any more proof of the Arab tolerance towards the Jews is needed, then the student should turn back the pages of history and see for himself how the fleeing Jews from the tyranny of fanatic Europeans in the last century were hailed with open arms by the Arabs who gave them land and homes to live in Palestine and elsewhere on the Arabian Peninsula.

The writer of these lines would like to quote one of his despatches published in the Indian press in July, 1968. Here is a brief quotation from a newsletter:

"Al Azhar is the nerve-centre of the Islamic culture and teachings. It has been the citadel of Islamic learning for the last more than 1000 years. All Islamic countries had been accepting Fatwas (religious ukases) of 'Al Azhar' as their mark of guidance.

"This very 'Al Azhar' has got a huge Bazar around it with all the antiquities of the olden times. These Bazars used to be closed on Saturdays (the Jewish Sabbath) till the first Arab-Israeli War of 1948. And now Sunday is the 'Al Azhar' area market-holiday. The Bazars remain open on Fridays."

Traditions and temperament both are responsible for the tolerant mood of the Arabs.

And inspite of all their hospitality to the Jewish immigrants from far off, from the very beginning of the last century, the Zionist colonisers have been wreaking vengeance on the Arab inhabitants of Palestine which land has been bestowed on the Zionists by the British imperialists and sanctified by the United Nations under the leadership of the United States.

The Zionist claim to Palestine is very hollow. We have already shown in the beginning that the Jews originally came from Iraq (Mesopotamia) into Palestine and then immigrated away to Egypt where they remained wandering for about two scores of years. We are supported by so many documents in this assertion.

A WHITE PAPER issued by the Jordanian Directorate of Culture and Guidance tells the following truth in this respect:

"The belief that the Jews have a political claim to Palestine, which is the root of zionist thought and action, is not supported by historical facts. That Jerusalem is the spiritual home of the Jews, however, is well recognised by Moslems and Christians alike..."

And continuing this information, the WHITE PAPER tells us furthermore: "From a purely political standpoint, the ancient Israelites were only one of a long series of powers who exerted political control over the area from some time before 3000 B.C. until the present time. Actually the Kingdom of Israel, under David and Solomon lasted for only 72 years, from 994 until the year 922 B.C. Then the Kingdom was split apart into two small Kingdoms — Judah and Israel — with Jerusalem as the capital of Judah, and Samaria as the capital of Israel. The Kingdom of Judah lasted for about 350 years, and the Kingdom of Israel for about 200 years."

The WHITE PAPER further tells us that Palestine had a

flourishing population before the first Israeli invasion during the 14th century B.C. The Canaanites, the former inhabitants of Palestine had a very advanced civilisation, and it was superior to that of the nomadic Israelites, the Paper says.

However, this is not the purpose of our present theme. The past, and invasions and conquests of the past cannot be quoted to support a new wave of Zionist immigrants into Palestine. There is no divine right for any past invader to come back and recapture what he had lost long ago.

The writer of these lines is not actuated by any bias against the Jews but certainly against the Zionists, he is. It is not necessary to point out any more affinities between the Jews and the Arabs. Suffice it to say that there are many pieces of literature where the Arab and Moslem writers have adopted Jewish girls as their heroines. A novel by the name of "SHATIR SHAMIM", published in Karachi (Pakistan) at a time when the Arabs and the Zionists were having their first war, extols the brave deeds of a Jewish girl from Turkey working with an Indian hero against the Nazis during the WORLD WAR II. Even in recent times there are works published by Arab writers wherein are found the Jewish names with esteem and credit.

Therefore, we ask the reader to reject point-blank that the Arabs are anti-Jew.

THE MOTIVE POWER :

Under capitalism there is no other power governing the relations of mankind than the Economics. All affinities fade away before self-interest. The motive power is, Money.

Scriptures show us that there exist affinities between Islam, Judaism and Christianity. But when the clash of inte-

rests takes placed all ties break. The last two Wold Wars have shown us that neither religion nor philosophy stood in the way when the Protestants fought the Protestants and the Catholics the Catholics. Nazism had no affinities with the Protestant idealism of Britain, nor the Fascists of Italy recognised the Catholic brotherhood of France.

Thus, there is not much weight in arguing about the akin faiths or akin traditions.

The exodus of the Zionists into Palestine has been ordained by powerful World Finance Capital. Religious sentiments of the Jews have been exploited because after all cheap faithful and loyal labour force is required to develop and fully industrialise Palestine with its mineral wealth which is fabulous.

We should not any more delay in quoting the British papers telling us as to how much mineral wealth — unfathomable treasure — is lying buried in the sands of Palestine and underneath the waters of the Dead Sea.

Count Louis Hamon, the world famous Palmist and Astrologer, commonly known as CHEIRO gives us the following figures of the mineral wealth of Palestine. The figures are from the British papers of 1927 and are mentioned in CHEIRO'S "WORLD PREDICTIONS". These figures directly reply the so many questions that arise over the Palestine problem which has been festering for the last twenty years and more.

It is interesting to note how, this small statistical information reveals a lot about the greed of the world capitalist powers, who, under the cloak of aiding Zionism are advancing their own interests in the region.

THE MAIN QUESTIONS

The puzzled intellectuals of the world have been asking one another several questions over these two decades about Palestine. And they do not get right answer. They ask:

"If Palestine is the land of the Arabs and Jews; of the Moslems, Christians and the Jews, how are the others concerned about it?

"Why has the world been divided into pro-Arab and pro-Zionist camps ever since the termination of the World War I and more so ever since the Great Powers of the world won victory over Nazism and Fascism in the World War II?

"Why do the power-politics of the Great Powers fester this land?

"Why Britain, U.S.A. and West Germany are helping the growth of Zionism?

"Why are these Powers interested in settling all the Jews of the world in Palestine?

"What, after all, is this turmoil all about?

There is only one answer to these questions, or rather to this omnibus question: WEALTH OF THE DEAD SEA & ALL THE LAND AROUND IT.

Here is that wealth :

	Tons.	Pounds sterling
POTASH	1,300,000,000	14,000,000,000
BROMINE	853,000,000	52,000,000,000
SALT	11,900,000,000	9,500,000,000
GYPSUM	81,000,000	24,000,000
MAGNESIUM	22,000,000,000	165,000,000,000

TOTAL VALUE

POUNDS STERLING. 240,524,000,000

In this connection CHEIRO has to say the following:

"These figures are based upon current market prices. This total represents an amount equal to the aggregate income of Great Britain for 100 years. And it is alluded so calmly by experts as being a reasonable estimate of the wealth lying fallow in one of the most dreary, arid and desolate places of the earth's surface (Extract from newspapers dated 24th/25th October, 1927)".

CHEIRO'S WORLD PREDICTIONS

The published material in the British press of that year, 1927, and the accounts in some books of the period, show that the total value of these raw materials mentioned above, of the DEAD SEA and Palestine, comes equal to the aggregate income of Great Britain for hundred years. And please, mind that, this calculation is based on the data available some more than forty years ago.

This amount of £240,524,000,000. speaks for itself and requires no interpretation. It is vociferous enough.

And please, mind; The same groups which had formed rival companies for the exploitation of these minerals are now combined into one unidentified consortium.

There are the Americans, the British, the (West) Germans and the Israeli capitalists (formerly forming what was known as the Anglo-Palestinian group).

If this truth is realised then it can be grasped that under the leadership of USA financial interests minor interests of

Western Europe are co-operating in consolidating Zionist Kingdom of Israel. Israel is not so far been declared a Republic.

PARTITION OF PALESTINE

The question arises : If this is a fact that the main aim of the Western Powers is to have a friendly government in Palestine for facilitating the exploitation of the mineral wealth, then why did the Socialist Camp vote for the establishment of Israel at the United Nations? The simplest reply is that the Socialist Camp had become very generous after scoring victories over the Nazi and Fascist forces, and had gone out of its way to let Berlin be divided into Zones, and let an Israel be formed on the Arab soil. Every student of history knows that it were the Soviet armies that had entered Berlin first, and only then opened the gates of this Nazi capital to the Western armies much later.

The Socialist Camp committed some mistakes in early years of victories; and this is not our job to enumerate the same.

HARNESSING THE JEWISH SENTIMENTS

For the last one century the world capitalist press has been propagating for the return of the Jews to Palestine. It has been nurturing and feeding the Jewish sentiments in order to harnessing the industrious finance-conscious nature of the Jews, and thus has promoted Zionism to a degree of frenzy since the end of the last century.

The reason was quite simple: The Jews have proved to be the pioneers of modern capitalism — both in Europe and in U.S.A. They have built huge industries and monopolised al-

most all the premier concerns of the world. If one were to pick up half a dozen names of big business in the early years of industrial development, one would at once come across such names as ROTHSCHILDS, MORGANS, HUGENBERGS and SASSOONS etc.,

It is natural, therefore, that the Jews with Zionist sentiments should undertake the tapping and development of the mineral wealth of this Holy Land. And for this, a loyal labour corps be organised with a sentimental touch. Hence, the encouragement to the Jewish immigration. Religion is said to be the opiate of the people. In the name of Judaism, the vast populations of the Jews in Yemen and many Asiatic and European countries have been attracted to Israel. But the great majority of the Asiatic Jews are still the hewers of wood and carriers of water. They have got no hold on the finances and development of the new land.

Fate of the Indian Jewish immigrants to Israel was amply reported in the world press; and how many of them left their holy land uncermoniously to settle back in their original homes.

One may charge the Arabs that they are traditionally very slow towards modernism or modern industrialism; and that industrialisation is just beginning in the Arabland. But it can also be said without any contradiction that the Arabs of Palestine could not have been harnessed to the chariot-wheel of Anglo-American capitalism for the exploitation of their own dear motherland in the interests of the capitalists.

This is a fact — undeniable and uncontrovertible.

THE QUESTION ANSWERD

The question is now answered as to how the Jews had been and are still being induced to converge on Palestine from all over the world.

And this process, starting from 1882, is still continuing.

It makes easy now to answer the other question too, and that is whether the Zionist-Jews are converging on this Holy Land under the promise of their God, or under the behests of Anglo-American capitalism.

The overthrow of Sultan Abdul Hamid had made it easy for the intensification of Zionist propaganda, and made immigration into Palestine very easy, yet the floodgates of immigration were opened by the agreements the Arabs had reached with Britain against the Ottoman Empire in 1915 under the leadership of King Hussein of Hejaz, the Sherif of Mecca.

The Arab hatred towards the Turkish rule was intense, no doubt, yet what happened was what the Persian poet, Hafiz Shirazi had composed several hundred years ago: AH KAZ CHAH BIROON AAMAD O DAR DAAM UFTAD" (Ah, came out of a well and fell into a trap!)

This agreement between the Arabs and the British led to an Arab revolt against the Turkish Empire in 1916, and was the main inducement for General Allenby to march on Jerusalem at the head of the Indian cavalry and infantry and capture it on December, 9, 1917.

In the best traditions of British imperialism the General took with himself a token Australian force and announced to the world that the Aussies had captured the Holy City. The Indian soldiers paid by their blood, and most of them being

Punjabi Moslems, paid by their honour and beliefs in their religion.

We should stop here with this theme, yet would like to emphasise that the British rulers, by deceiving the Arabs — promising independence all over from Iraq to Palestine and Jordan — actually annexed these parts under a Mandate from the LEAGUE OF NATIONS — a cheat organisation of the international gangsters who used it as much as the U.S.A. today is using the United Nations to serve its imperialist ends.

THE ARABS GET A BLACK DAY

November 2nd, 1917 was a BLACK DAY for the Arabs. It was on this day that the shameful BALFOUR DECLARATION was flung at the faces of all those who had co-operated with the British in the conquest of Palestine. And from that date, for thirty years the British ruled Palestine, and encouraged Zionist exodus into this Holy Land.

What followed next has been the history of Arab misery. The Arabs had forgotten their glorious past under SALADIN, but the British had not forgotten their miserable defeats under Richard the Lion-heart in this very area centuries ago. The revenge that the British took on the Arabs was colossal, and is still continuing although many Arab monarchs and leaders are still duped by British promises and deceitful attitude at the United Nations.

One has to pay for one's sins as well as for one's love. And the Arabs have paid sufficiently for their love of the British ruling class.

The British left Palestine on May 14, 1948 but even before they left they had encouraged Arab-Zionist riots. The massacre

of DEIR YASSIN on April 9, 1948, when 250 men, women and children were massacred is only a brief chapter of orgy that followed. And all this has to be written in the annals of British rule and assigned directly to the discredit of British imperialism.

And all the three Wars that have taken place between the Zionists and the Arabs are the handiwork of the world imperialist forces.

How different is the Arab attitude in matters of communal orgies! Their traditions and temperament do not suit any useless killing; and tolerance is in their very veins, otherwise the Jewish shops in Mouski Bazar of Cairo, would not flourish; and there are no Ghetos in Egypt. The Jew moves as freely as a Moslem or a Christian in the streets of Cairo and other ARE and many other Arab cities.

THE FERTILE CRESCENT

Any student of Economics could tell us that for industrial development of a country either a hinterland of agricultural produce or a regular supply of foodstuffs and all that is needed from Earth in the shape of necessities of sustenance is very much vital.

And we have shown in the foregoing pages the immense wealth that Palestine and DEAD SEA contain, and have also shown the interest the world financial groups have taken to acquire concessions in this area for the development and exploitation of this mineral wealth.

Hence, these groups encourage the Zionist sentiments about the spread of the State of Israel from the NILE to the EUPHRATES.

Geographically, this land of the Fertile Crescent is very rich in agriculture, fruits, fish and silks. With the industrial growth, this area can be regarded as the most competitive area against all the capitalist combines of the world.

With this in view, the Anglo-American flood of propaganda supporting Zionist aspirations of expansion can be explained.

The Fertile Crescent is rich in all respects, and what lies beyond this, is all an arid land or vast desert region. Go beyond the Nile and you will find a vast desert stretching into the great Desert of Sahara. And cross the Tigris and enter Iran, you will find from Dasht-i-Lut in Iran to the Thar Desert of Rajasthan in India covering Sind in Pakistan — a land with nothing but a sea of uselesss sand.

So, the Zionist ambitions can be understood without any difficulty: Palestine and the Dead Sea for the mineral wealth and all the area between the Nile and Euphrates to supply cheap agricultural produce to make Israel a very mighty industrial power of the world. And all the gains of such an industrial State to be shared by the financial groups of Britain,, U.S.A. and West Germany and the minor partners of the Western capitalist world.

SOW BEFORE YOU REAP!

"Sow before you reap", is a simple law of nature. You cannot reap a harvest unless you sow. And the law of Capitalist Economy is, first to invest and then to exploit.

With this in view, USA and her partners, like West Germany and U.K. are sinking huge sums of money in the development of the State of Israel. As many as eleven strong

Zionist organisations are functioning in the United States alone, collecting funds for Israel and propagating for its well-being and development.

These organisations have been selling Israeli State Bonds and collecting subscriptions both from the Jews and from other USA citizens. Apart from the U.S. State aid to Israel, these organisations alone had collected as much as Dollars, 60,000,000 as donations, and as much as Dollars, 50,000,000 from the sale of the State of Israel Bonds every year before the June, 1967 War. After and during the June 1967 War the donations increased, and the sale of the State of Israel Bonds reached the epic heights.

And some official figures state that the United States Government had donated as financial aid from 1948 onwards (before the June War) the sum of Dollars, 614,300,000. And this sum does not cover other items donated by U.S. to Israel in the shape of foodstuffs and war material.

WEST GERMANY

The West German Government with ambitions of sharing the exploitation of the mineral wealth of the Dead Sea and Palestine in collaboration with U.S.A. and partners, came out with a strange statement that she has to atone for the sins of Nazism against the German Jews by paying vast reparations to the Israeli Government in money and arms. And the Israeli Government was quick to seize this God-sent opportunity and to announce that she must be paid the minimum sum of 1,500, million Dollars as a claim on behalf of the sufferers of the Nazi regime.

U.S.A. MILITARY AID TO ISRAEL

NATO, SEATO, CENTO, all are the organisations of the militarists, and are headed directly or indirectly by the U.S. Pentagon. There are many arsenals of these organisations spread all over from the East to the West, and from the North to the South of the Globe.

Israel is one of those numerous arsenals. President after President of the United States has sworn allegiance to a policy of equipping Israel with the deadliest of weapons.

Under this scheme of enriching Israel with means of destruction, U.S. supplied her with HAWK Missiles in the beginning of the sixties, and went on equipping her through her satellites like West Germany; and when France was under the Pentagon orders, from France, and constantly through the British sources with all types of weapons.

This HAWK missile is a very dangerous weapon in the hands of this tiny State of Israel. The shooting range of this weapon is 38,000 feet in the air. It weighs as much as 1,275-lbs, and has a length of 17 feet, almost the length of a medium size canoe.

And West Germany has been continuously used by the Pentagon for the production of and supply to Israel of almost all the material needed for a war with Conventional weaponry. Just a year and a half before the June, 1967 Arab-Israeli War was a reality, West Germany had been active in sending tons and tons of war material to Israel.

This act had led to the breaking off of relations between West Germany, U.A.R. and a number of other Arab States in 1965.

It is better to refresh the memory about the events of that period. We take the National Assembly Session of the UAR taking place on the night of February 10, 1965, when the then Premier of UAR, opened his speech with these words:

"I can reaffirm that Israel has obtained the following equipment (from West Germany) :

1. 200 Anti-Aircraft guns of 40mm calibre equipped with Radar.
2. 36, ten mm autormatic guns of American type.
3. 15 Helicopters of the 58 B. American make.
4. Part of consignment of 24 Planes of the Ford Atlas type.
5. Technical aid in the field of scientific research aimed at manufacturing comprehensive destruction weapons including bacteriological and chemical weapons.
6. 80 General Paton tanks of American make.

"West Germany was not satisfied," continued the Premier, "with this deal which it offered to Israel as a gift. It has been disclosed to the U.A.R. that a new agreement, under which larger arms supplies would be given to Israel, was about to be signed between West Germany and Israel. The new agreement provided for supplying Israel with the following:

1. 48 Bombers, some of the American type. A number of transport aircraft of the Ford Atlas make.

2. 27 reconnaisance and transport aircraft of Hornet 27 type.

3. A number of General Paton tanks — 47 and 48 type.

4. A number of small armoured-carriers of the Hotchikos type.

5. A number of carriers and armoured vehicles used for military reconnaisance.

6. A number of the new German-made Leopard tanks.

7. 36 guns of 105 mm calibre equipped with American-made tractors.

8. 36 guns of 155 mm calibre on American-made tractors.

9. 6 Torpedo Boats of the Gagoire type.

10. Supplies and equipment for frogman units.

And finally the Premier had added that Israel had been supplied by West Germany with Ground-to-ground missiles.

And besides the above figures, a lot more had been pouring into Israel from West Germany before and after the June, 1967 War.

It is no use restating the fact, and no use repeating what is known universally that Israel is being treated by U.S.A. as one of its premier satellites, and the aid that U.S. gives to Israel will one day pay back U.S. in billions.

To maintain the sovereignty of Israel is a cardinal point in the political and military strategy of the Pentagon. You strike at California or you strike at Israel, it is just the same thing to the U.S.A. Hence, the flow of U.S. arms to Israel has to be explained with this strategy in mind.

Forty eight Phantom Jet Fighters of the Supersonic class or the training of 120 Israeli Pilots, mean nothing. It is as much as training United States' own pilots and transfering

her planes from one part of the vast country to another, inside the U.S.A. Israel is a stationary Air-craft-Carrier for the Pentagon which U.S. can utilise any time against the adjoining areas.

To explain this side of Zionism we have to delve into the military realms and show to the best of our knowledge as to how U.S.A. requires the presence of Israel in the Middle East, and that too within a striking distance of the USSR.

MILITARY IMPORTANCE OF ISRAEL TO NATO & CENTO

Pick up a map of the Middle East and of Eastern Europe. See, how the two countries of the CENTO (Iran and Turkey) are joined together at the top of IRAQ.

Look also at the Mediterranean and the Straits of Dardenelles, and crossing the Sea of Marmora enter the Straits of Bosphorus.

Believe also that Mediterranean is a vast bottle with one neck starting at the Strait of Gibralter and the other at the Dardenelles, entering into the semi-inland Black Sea.

Any strong unit of the Soviet Naval Force at the Strait of Bosphorus can throttle the mightiest Naval Force that the NATO can confront the Soviet with, in the Sea of Marmora, with the intention to enter the Black Sea to strike at the Soviet ports of Sevastopol, Odessa or Batum, or try to land anywhere in the littoral of the Black Sea to carry the war into the Soviet territory.

In any war with conventional weapons, this will be the effort of the enemies of the Soviet Union to enter the Black Sea; and failing that route to capture a new one.

WHAT IS THE MILITARY VALUE OF SYRIA TO THE NATO & CENTO

Israel is a very good arsenal and base for operations for the NATO and the CENTO. Western alliance can depend on this base for air strikes anywhere within the radius of several hundred miles. But land operations undertaken from Israel require the capture of SYRIA.

Again, looking at the map of the Middle East we find how the two CENTO allies viz., Turkey and Iran are joined together over the top of IRAQ, and touch the southern fringes of the Caucasus.

Western forces landing at Port Bushire, Khurramshehr or Abadan in Iran, and Izmir in Turkey, or even Basra (forcibly) in Iraq, have to traverse a long distance over a tedious terrain to reach the southern borders of the USSR. Hence, the prime necessity to acquire by all means possible — Syria.

And if we grasp this much, then we can also grasp how before the Israeli-Arab War began in June 1967, the world knew that Israel was going to attack Syria; and that information had led to the preparations of the other Arabs to come to the aid of Syria.

But the leaking out of the information about the Israeli intentions of striking at Syria (and given out to the UAR by the Soviet Union) had sounded a note of alarm both to U.S.A. and to her allies. Their Aircraft-Carriers had begun to move to and fro the Suez Canal, and in close proximity of the two Arab States of Syria and U.A.R.; and we also know how the ex-President of United States, Mr. Johnson had warned

the Arabs not to strike first, and how the attack of Israel was camouflaged by the Johnson Administration — almost lulling the Arabs to a state of wait and see. If the Arabs had struck first and defeated the tiny State of Israel, then of-course the world would have seen the operations of Anglo-American Aircraft Carriers against the Arabs.

If any proof of this statement is required then one should turn back to the pages of his newspapers of the period and see for himself how the two Powers — Britain and the United States — were concentrating in the Mediterranean area, ready to enter the combat, if the Arabs had won by striking first.

THE MAIN THEME & PURPOSE

The main theme and purpose of this small treatise is not to indulge in vile propaganda. Our task is to lay bare the truth and show by proof that Zionism is a dangerous cult, wholly in the interests of the world financial groups exploiting the traditions and sentiments of the diehards among the Jews.

Again, we would like to point out that West Germany might not be a willing partner to the schemes of the Pentagon and the U.S.A. financial groups, yet she has chained herself and her destinies to the chariot-wheels of American imperialism, and as such, cannot be exonerated from the sins that World Zionism, under the behests of American capitalism, is perpetrating on the Arabs.

As a matter of fact, many Jews and some Americans also have said more than we can dream of saying against Zionism.

The French newspaper, "LE MONDE", in its issue dated 12/3/1968 wrote under the headline: "One hundred Israeli

intellectuals rise against THE VIOLATION OF THE RIGHTS OF MAN in the occupied territory". And it went on: "A hundred Israeli intellectuals, including novelists, music composers, journalists, priests, university professors, doctors and lawyers have just published a statement against the 'Violation of rights of man in Israel and in the Occupied Territory."

"The "LE MONDE" took all its information from the published accounts in the Israeli press itself. The statement of these intellectuals charges Israel among other things with house arrests and detentions without trial not only of the Arabs but also of the Jews too who happen to criticise their government on its high-handedness.

Here are the names of some of the Jews who have denounced from time to time the Zionist tyranny against the Arabs:

Dr. Hans Kohn, an eminent Jewish writer; Dr. Martin Huber, philosopher and author, a spiritual Zionist and a former professor in the Hebrew University in Jerusalem; the world famous scientist, professor Einstein; and last but not the least important is Moshe Menuhin, a former diehard Zionist and American by nationality. He has spat fire, after his disillusionment with Zionism. In his book, "THE DECADENCE OF JUDAISM IN OUR TIME", he has set ablaze the cult of Zionism. And if any non-Jewish writer had written the same thing one would very well say that the man is smitten by racialism or anti-semitic zeal. But fortunately, Mr. Menuhin comes from the same stock as Mr. Abba Eban, Mr. David Ben Gurion or Mrs. Golda Meir.

Avoiding the choicest abuses and polemics of Mr. Menuhin and his broadsides against the founders of Zionism — against people like Theodor Herzl and others — we shall

content ourselves by quoting a few passages from the preface of his famous book. He says:

"I have entitled this book, 'THE DECADENCE OF JUDAISM IN OUR TIME', but I almost prefer an earlier title, 'JEWISH NATIONALISM : A MONSTROUS HISTORICAL CRIME AND CURSE.' Please, take your own choice. Both titles mean the same thing to me.

"I have reached the age and stage in life at which an intellectually honest, free and independent man is moved by inner compulsions of a life-time. As a conscientious Jew, I feel it necessary to set forth my views of Jewish history after studying and observing for many years the lofty and dignified Judaistic past of pure ethics, philosophy and religion, on the one hand, and the current decadent, tragic and revolting perversion of it into boisterous 'JEWISH' nationalism — Judaism turned into rampant Israelism — on the other...

"Today, in our new one-world, pretexts for action based on Blood, Soil, Manifest Destiny, Redemption, Gloire, the Chosen People and the WHITE MAN'S BURDEN are recognised and fully rejected with a sense of shame and compunction, by intelligent and awakened Europeans. Nevertheless, persistent, stagnant, decadent and anachronistic 'JEWISH' nationalism (i.e., ZIONISM) still preaches, now more than ever, these time-worn and degenerate ideas of' collective SACRO EGOISMO', as Professor Martin Huber calls them. In its own way, it has already brought much misery on a million uprooted innocent Palestinian Arabs who were exiled from their homes and homeland, and hundreds of thousands of uprooted Jews, particularly in the Arab lands.

"Advancing, evolving, universal and spiritual Judaism, which was the core of the Judeo-Christian code of ethics, is

now becoming the tool, the handmaiden of 'JEWISH' nationalism, so that the ethical injunctions, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not covet ... have been transformed into the unethical, primitive and tribalistic 'COVENANT' of the 'Chosen People' and 'ISRAEL FIRST'."

We will be doing injustice to Moshe Menuhin if we do not put in this piece the concluding lines of his famous book.

In the ending pages of the book we find the following lines — but very interesting lines, from a man of conscience. To be just, one should regard the book of Mr. Menuhin as an honest confession of one disillusioned: To quote him finally, he says:

"My conscience had been bothering me ever since the BALFOUR DECLARATION came out in 1917 to undo the normal course of evolution of the Jews and Judaism. I felt then that I could no longer belong to the gang of which I was a dedicated member by indoctrination and brainwashing. I hope that this book will contribute to healthier and more independent thinking by innocent but misguided American and En glish Jews, as well as by Jews in other countries. I hope that it will also contribute to a better and more sympathetic understanding by the Gentile world of that great majority of innocent, loyal, grateful but confused Jews who now must win a new war of emancipation — and emancipation this time from their benighted fellow-Jews, the 'JEWISH' nationalists, who have perverted and degenerated the noble heritage of universal JUDAISM."

THE CASE OF THE PALESTINIANS

The case of the Palestinian Arabs is as simple as anything. Today, the entire 92% that formed the Arab population of Palestine is either in camps or floating all over the world including the neighbouring Arab countries.

The plight of the Palestinian refugees is a heart-rending story, and British imperialism is responsible for inflicting all these miseries on these simple Arabs who had nothing but their land to till and homes to look after.

But the brave people of the desert did not give up their freedom-struggle from the very date that the United Nations partitioned their sweet land and ushered in a foreign Zionist State in Palestine.

The story of Arab deeds of bravery is an epic story which can be compared either with the resistance fighters of France against the Nazi hordes, or with the brave Vietcongs of Vietnam fighting against an alien — plaguing their fertile land.

Here begins the story of the Palestine Liberation Struggle:

It was on May 15, 1948 that the State of Israel was proclaimed. The first act of this Fascist State was to put all Arab villages under military rule. No Arab was allowed to leave his village without a written permit from the Military Governor; even to go out to look for work or to obtain medical aid. And we have this authentic information, that Arab children died in the laps of their mothers waiting in the corridors of the Israeli Governate building for a permit to go to see a doctor. And lo! The travel permit, if at all given, laid down a special route for an Arab. Any deviation from the laid down route was punishable.

And their lands: If any Zionist settler decided to have the Arab land that he coveted, the Governor was to see that such a land was handed over the moment it was demanded, without any complaint. Legal term applied was that it was sold by the Arab.

We do not propose to linger over the atrocities that Zionism perpetrated on the Arabs. We close this chaper with a quotation from Dr. Hans Kohn, an eminent Jewish writer who contributed a lengthy article in the Autumn-Winter issue of the "MENORAH JOURNAL" of 1958. It is a non-Zionist American-Jewish publication. The article was entitled, "ZIONISM and the JEWISH NATIONAL IDEA", Among other things, the article contains the following lines :

> "They treat the Arabs with hostility and cruelty, deprive them of their rights, offend them without cause, even boast of these deeds; and nobody among us opposes this despicable and dangerous inclination."

For a long time the world conscience remained dormant and impervious to the fate of the Palestinian refugees. The United Nations passed resolutions after resolutions enjoining on Israel to take back the refugees. But nothing happened. These resolutions were not worth the papers on which they were written and passed.

Then came the June 1967 War between Israel and the Arabs, and it added several hundred thousands more refugees to the number already glut.

In the meanwhile the Palestinians had started organising themselves into mighty organisations. For a long time some of the Arab States took no notice of these, nor did they encourage this; as a matter of fact some had evinced a hostile attitude.

But with time, the clouds of misunderstanding cleared to the extent that even reactionary Arab Heads began to espouse the cause of Palestine liberation.

The year 1952 saw a new wave of Arab Revolution. Egypt became the leader of this wave. The monarchy was overthrown, and a programme of Socialist reconstruction adopted; and aid in promoting revolutions in other Arab lands intensified. The direct result was that it facilitated the growth of the revolutionary movements from the OCEAN to the GULF in the Arab territories.

One by one the countries of Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia on the African mainland, and Iraq and Yemen in Asia got themselves emancipated — drawing inspiration from the July 1952 Revolution in Egypt.*

Even Jordan with its old monarchy threw off the shackles of British imperialism, when Glubb Pasha was dismissed from the Command of the Jordanian armed forces.

And one by one all these countries realised their duty of aiding the Palestinians to regain their lost motherland. And not to speak of the Arabs alone; the progressive States and organisations of the world over veered round the cause of Palestine. From the Far East to the Far West — Latin America — the Palestinian cause got ovations and support.

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* LIBYA is the latest addition in the chain of Arab Revolutions. South Yemen preceded it.

BIRTH OF AN ORGANISATION

Encouraged by the world response to their cause, the Palestinians of all political views set on organising themselves into an organisation.

A National Conference of the Palestinians met in a session on June 2, 1964. It was a representative gathering of all the Palestinian Arabs.

Among other energetic steps that the Conference took, it recommended the setting up of the Palestine Liberation Organisation. This P.L.O. received recognition from all the Arab countries which met in a Summit Conference in Alexandria from September 5 to September 11, 1964. The Summit went further and recognised the value and necessity of organising a Palestine Liberation Army — and this Army played a very meritorious role in the June, 1967, Arab-Israeli War.

It is not without interest that one should recall some of the proceedings of the June, 1964, Palestine National Conference.

This Conference passed many ambitious resolutions. Their organisational value was tremendous. The Conference set up Palestine Committees in almost all the Arab inhabited areas — from the villages to the towns. The Conference recommended to establish representative offices in Moscow, New Delhi, Peking, Belgrade, United Nations and in all the African capitals.

Moreover, this Conference proclaimed a National Charter with 29 articles. The most important points of this Charter can be summed up as follows :

Right of self-determination after liberation; to recognise all those as Palestinians who resided in Palestine until 1947;

and to recognise their children too as Palestinians; Jews of Palestine-origin to be regarded as Palestinians; different ideologies and different social, political and economic creeds not to distract the people to unite for national liberation.

Three motives to govern the Palestinians :

1. National Unity.
2. National mobilisation and liberation.
3. Belief in the principles of Justice, Freedom, Sovereignty and Self-determination coupled with Human Dignity and Belief in Peaceful Co-existence.

Thus, the solid foundations of a central organisation of all the Palestinian people were laid at this Palestine National Conference. And the devoted among the Palestinians set on moving from capital to capital to seek support for their honest cause.

During the Alexandria Summit Conference of the Arab Heads of State a large sum of money was voted for developing the Palestinian struggle... As much as one million pounds (Egyptian) was announced to the press which the Summit granted to the initial stages of the Palestine Liberation Organisation and this sum was earmarked **for civilian purposes only**. What sums were allotted by this Summit for the growth of the Palestine Liberation Army were not known, but the press reports of the period say that "the Kings and Heads of Arab States vied with one another in pledging their countries' contributions towards the cost of the Palestine Liberation Army."

And the publicity that the Palestine cause has been gaining ever since 1964, is tremendous. Far and wide the people are asking now as to what this Palestine Question is. And

except the morbid pro-imperialist people of the earth all sane ones are supporting the cause of liberation both of Palestine and of Vietnam.

REVOLUTIONARY STRUGGLE

Every revolutionary struggle in the world has produced its own intellectuals, poets, leaders, fighters and martyrs. The strength of the liberation movement grows daily through the intellectual guidance it gets from its theoreticians, and derives inspiration from its fighters.

And when a whole nation is under subjugation and tyranny, the entire populace rises against the tyrant. From times immemorial, many names are echoing through the corridors of world history.

And the enemies of the liberation movement have always denounced the freedom-fighters as 'terrorists' and misguided people.

Palestine movement is not free from getting inimical broadcasts from the imperialist-controlled press, radio and television.

One, daily hears from the Voice of America and the B.B.C. about the slanderous designations given to the Palestinian resistance fighters.

Even the feudal elements of a country under thraldom react very violently when they find their country's freedom fighters slandered by foreign press and broadcasts.

Freedom struggle of a country is not confined to a particular class only. Otherwise, the world would never have heard the name of Prince Kropotkin of Russia — the leader

of the Anarcho-Communists in the last and the beginning of the present century.

Likewise, we find the following from the pen of a scion of the Hashmite royal family. Prince Hassan Ben Talal was studying in the United Kingdom at the Harrow School, and later on at Oxford University, during 1964. He writes about his stay in U.K. in the following words :

"During my time at the school in England, I have become aware of the total lack of understanding with which English students and indeed Englishmen and Europeans of all ages regard my part of the world. This fact is not at all surprising, for the garbled accounts of the popular press which from day to day favours one cause or another in the Arab world, cannot in any way reveal the true nature of the fundamental problems of this part of the world, and what is more important, the History of these problems, without which no one can be expected to verge anywhere near understanding them. I should like hereby to reveal to you a major problem which has worried my own country — Jordan — for the last sixteen years and despite continued effort as yet appears insoluble. I myself am not a Palestinian, being originally of Central Arabia stock, and can treat this problem in every way objectively. If you consider me biased then the facts may speak for themselves, for this is a matter which concerns every Arab wherever he may be."

As a man of press, the writer of these lines is so often startled when foreigners ask the question as to why should the Commandos not leave Israel in peace?

They repeat the same old theme expressed by the Western bourgeois press and Radio-Television: "LOOK, ISRAEL WANTS TO LIVE IN PEACE, but look at these Commandos,

they would not allow her peace!" "After all," they say, "Israel is the country of the Israelis."

Such people forget history, they forget the fate of the millions of Arab refugees in camps, shivering in cold, burning in scorching heat of the desert in summer, and suffering indescribable loss in their meagre property and health when the rains overtake them and their tents — full of holes.

The world conscience is sleeping. The moribund imperialism in its last stage of life has been more cruel than ever before, and gloats over the sufferings of the people because they have different colour and creed than its protagonists. Wonder, if the capitalists have any creed save that of making money!

A very small incident affecting the Israel is repeated ad nauseam with sympathy on the Western chain of broadcasts. But when hundreds of young Arab school girls are injured during the Israeli police and military attacking the demonstrations of the school girls, no voice of protests is heard from the West. Not even when several demonstrators die by the Israeli bullets — young girls, boys, children, infants and old men and women. How bleak is the Western conscience?

CAN THE PALESTINIAN ARABS BE EXTERMINATED?

From Ben Gurion to Golda Meir, from Abba Eban to the lowest Zionist, every one has been citing the example of colonisation of the American Continent; and refuses to define the boundaries of an Israeli State. All these people have been pinning their faith on the extermination of the Arabs and have, since 1948, taken gradual steps to frighten and drive the Palestinians into the deserts, while taking over their fertile lands, homes and properties.

No body disputes an historic truth that superior civilisations had conquered and exterminated the people with no code of life or no mode of government. The European settlers were able to reduce the Red Indian population of the Americas to zero. The Aryans came to India and drove away the aborigines to hills and mountains and into the deep dense jungles. But these very Aryans could not reduce the Dravidians of South India to any lower strata than that of theirs own. The reason was that the Dravidian civilisation was no inferior to that of the Aryan invaders from the North.

Granted, there are no original inhabitants in Australia, and if they are, may be they are in negligent numbers; but the Arabs are neither aborigines nor any people inferior to any known civilisation of the world.

As a matter of fact, the Arab contribution to the world civilisation in general, and to the European one in particular is immense.

You turn to any chapter of human knowledge, and lo! You find an Arab name leading. No branch of social science was left undeveloped by the Arabs. Take Chemistry, Geography, Geology, Medicine, Botany or Mathematics, you find the Arab in the forefront, in the foremost list of the contributors.

MEDICINE :

Do you find a better name in the Medicine-sphere than that of Avicenna? And he was born more than 1000 years ago. Ibn Sina (that is what the name was of Avicenna) was in the period from 980 to 1037.

But before this greatest healer, existed another Arab by the name of Al Razi (better known in Europe as Rhazes, who lived from 844 to 926). His works were translated into Latin.

It was as long ago as 1395 that the Faculty of Medicine of Paris prized his works.

Time and space would not permit us to write more in this small brochure; we shall write as brief as possible to acquaint the reader with the achievements of the Arab men of Letters, Science, and Medicine.

These are a few of the names which run through the pages of Medical History; and their contribution is grand.

IBN-UL-JAZZAR :

His book was translated into Latin as VIATICUM. He died in 1009. This book was very popular with the physicians of the medieval era.

And Ali Ibn Al-Abbas's book on medicine entitled 'MA-LEKI' was translated into Latin in 1127, and long after, in 1523 was printed in Lyons (France).

Surgery too had been developed by the Arabs to an extent that when modern methods of surgery were adopted Abulcasis's name and method were not ignored. His book, "Al Tasrif" was translated into Latin and was known by its Latin name of "Medical Vade Mecum". This was in the period of 10th and 11th centuries.

Arab talent was recognised everywhere in Asia and Europe, but in the middle of the thirteenth century a new civilisation began to develop in Europe. It was based on some sort of industrial development though not as ripe as the Industrial Revolution that came later on in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. And with Ego, the Europe of the after years of thirteenth century began to take pride in everything European and started shunning and minimising all that was Oriental.

It is in this connection that one, JOHN DRAPER, writes the following, deprecating a new abnormal and anti-Arab tendency in the West. In his book, "INTELLECTUAL DEVELOPMENT OF EUROPE", he says: I have to deplore the systematic manner in which literature of Europe has contrived to put out of sight scientific obligation to the Arabs ... Surely they can no longer be hidden — what should the modern astronomer say when, remembering the contemporary barbarism of Europe, he finds the Arab, Abul Hassan speaking of tubes, to the extremities of which ocular and object-diopters, perhaps sights, were attached? What when he reads of the attempts of Abderehman Sufi at improving the photometry of the stars? Are the astronomical tables of Ibn Junis (A.D. 1008), or the measurement of time by pendulum oscillation, and the methods of correcting astronomical tables by systematic observations — such things worthless indications of the mental state?

"The Arab has left his intellectual impress on Europe; he has indelibly written on heavens, as any one may see who reads the names of the stars on a common celestial globe."

We leave this topic at that, and wish to add only this much that the Arab heritage is too rich to be hidden, and his culture too widespread to be denied or ignored.

A people with such a past, and with such an influence on world civilisation can neither be exterminated nor obliterated by any order that modern capitalist can boast of. Thus, Zionism's dream of driving away the Arabs to widerness, and building up an Empire spreading from the Euphrates to the Nile is foredoomed to failure and destruction.

Flushed by a transitory victory, Zionism is today boasting too much. World remembers very well how flushed by

their victories, the Nazis had boasted of capturing Moscow and bringing Stalin and Moscow leaders to Berlin, dragging by chains with rings in their noses. "He who laughs last, laughs the best." This is a very common English adage.

With all the might that Zionism commands — resting on Anglo-American imperialism — it cannot, and will not be able to crush the liberation forces now active in Palestine, and in the areas surrounding it — from the Atlantic Ocean to the Arab Gulf (commonly known as the Persian Gulf).

And the Western Europe, to which Mr. John Draper has alluded to in the foregoing lines, is once more awakening to realities and realises that, with all its support, Zionism cannot win the final victory.

BOASTS AND RETORTS

In the battles of destinies and continuous struggle for freedom, the issue neither lies with the present nor with the past. It always lies with the FUTURE. And the Future lies with Patience and Steadfastness.

The students of history remember very well, Hitler, Mussolini and the liutenants of Hitler like Goering, Goebbels and others who continued boasting and sabre-rattling throughout the years from 1939 to 1945.

Goebbels, the chief propagandist of Hitlerism, threw challenges in his broadcasts to all and sundry. In one of his broadcasts, and from the tongue of his Chief, he boasted that the days were not far when Stalin and the leaders of Kremlin would be brought in chains to Berlin with rings in their noses, **like the jugglers put in the noses of their pet bears.**

But History decided differently: Wheels of destiny were turning against the aggressors and boasters. POTSDAM PACT of the three leaders of the anti-Nazi Front decreed differently. The signatories of this Pact were the people who entered Berlin in triumph.

And at the time the Nazis had announced in boastful tones their challenge to Stalin, there came resounding the Voice from Moscow, "NAPOLEON COULD AT LEAST PASS A NIGHT IN THE KREMLIN (in Moscow after his conquests) BUT HITLER SHOULD BE SATISFIED WITH THE PICTURES AND PHOTOGRAPHS OF MOSCOW ONLY."

The analogy is very simple: The dreams of Zionism of building an Empire from the Euphrates to the Nile will also share the fate of Hitler, Mussolini and the ilk. The united powers of imperialism will not be able to change Destiny. Surely enough, Destiny lies with the revolutionary forces of the world which would usher in an era of Justice and Peace. Blatant talks of the aggressors will be drowned and rest at the bottom of the Deepest — Deep.

No body challenges that the destructive power of Israel is a part of the NATO strategy, as guided by the PENTAGON. Today, it looks as if the Future lies with aggression. But Vietnam and the guerilla actions in Sinai and Palestine and all over the occupied territories show that the forces of imperialism are far inferior to those of the liberation fighters.

LESSONS OF HISTORY

History provides us with one great lesson: And that is, however strong the aggressor, ultimately he is doomed to an ignominious defeat. If this lesson were false then India, Egypt and all the British overseas possessions would have been still

governed from London instead of by their Presidents and Heads of State.

France and Spain did not leave North Africa without the united struggle of the peoples of the area. France did not evacuate Vietnam, and Dutch imperialism did not leave Indonesia and other parts in the East Indies out of fellow-feeling or genorisity. And British imperialism did not depart from its possessions in Asia and Africa without a deadly struggle of the peoples against it.

Thus, every part of the once colony supplies us with the proof that it was freedom struggle of the people that ultimately triumphed. And this leads us to the conclusion that FUTURE lies with the remaining peoples-in-bondage. The support and proof of this hope is supplied by the staggering blows that the Vietcongs are delivering to the American imperialism and the brave deeds of the Commandos of the Arabland speak louder than any enemy broadcasts from East to West.

We wish to hammer the truth once more: If Britain, France, Holand, Belgium and other imperialist powers had not suffered heavy defeats at the hands of the freedom forces, then India would never had Nehru at the helm of Indian affairs; Nasser guiding the destinies of Egyptian Revolution; Ho Chi Minh at the head of the Vietnam (North) and Soekarno as the first Indonesian President, Ben Bella as the Algerian Head of State and following him, Mr. Houari Boumedienne; and Mr. Mohamad Ali Jinnah as the first Governor-General of Pakistan.

History gives us ample proof of the successes that the resistance movements have gained — beginning from the French and Yugoslavians during the World War II.

And this leads us to the final conclusion, and that is, the

world will once more see a Free Palestine and a Free Vietnam.

GOD PROMISES :

No body disputes the Israeli claim that God spoke to Prophet Moses, and promised him something. (That is a Hebrew belief). He promised him that He will help him to lead the lost wandering tribes back to Palestine from Egypt. God fulfilled His promise. But the tribes started scattering all over the world. Financial interests carried them all over the Globe.

God trusted the honest and humanistic attitude of MOSES and He helped him. But He does not trust the modern MOSHES whose main hobby is sabre-rattling; and they are ever trigger-happy.

If the Israeli Zionists depend on that particular prophecy then it was fulfilled long ago; and they must remember that they should themselves abide by the celestial orders.

In the good old honest days when the world was very young — it is said by people in the psychic beliefs — that even the Stars spoke to man, and they guided him to do the right thing at the right moment. One may believe in this or not, or one may believe in what is known as the inner voice or conscience; it all depends on one's own mental attitude.

But the conscience and inner voice of the people with dishonest intentions are blurred, and blunted beyond all redemption.

This much is quite enough for the purposes of this brochure.

We may return with a bigger indictment some day to awaken the slumbering conscience of the Western world.

Amen!

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Shaukat Usmani was born on 21/12/1901 in Bikaner. (INDIA) and left home for Afghanistan and the Soviet Union during the 1920 movement.

Coming back to India, he was involved in political cases like the CAWNPORE CONSPIRACY, MEERUT CONSPIRACY CASS and World War II, detention. He has passed altogether 15 years of prison life as:

1) 9-5-1923 to 26-8-1927
2) 20-3-1929 to 1-7-1935, and finally,
3) 14-7-1940 to 8-1-1945.

Twice selected as a workers' candidate for the British Parliament, once against Sir John Simon.

Has written many books in Urdu and English.

Has travelled widely in Asia and Europe. Spent six years in U.K., carrying on various researches. Is a Journalist and contributes off and on.

Fought for the October Revolution on Kirki Front in 1920.